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7 REAPPORTIONMENT PUBLIC HEARING
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10 OCTOBER 1, 2001 - 9:00 A.M.

11 BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE, SOUTH CAMPUS
12 PEMBROKE PINES, FLORIDA
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18 REPORTED BY:

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DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p> <p>1 MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: SENATOR DANIEL WEBSTER, CHAIRMAN 2 SENATOR ANNA P. COWIN SENATOR JACK LATVALA, CHAIRMAN 3 SENATOR WALTER G. CAMPBELL, JR. 4 SENATOR MANDY DAWSON 5 SENATOR STEVEN A. GELLER 6 SENATOR RON KLEIN 7 SENATOR DEBBY P. SANDERSON 8 SENATOR DEBBIE WASSERMAN-SCHULTZ 9 REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM F. ANDREWS 10 REPRESENTATIVE RANDY JOHN BALL 11 REPRESENTATIVE JOYCE CUSACK 12 REPRESENTATIVE MARIO DIAZ-BALART 13 REPRESENTATIVE RON L. GREENSTEIN 14 REPRESENTATIVE BEV KILMER 15 REPRESENTATIVE BRUCE KYLE 16 REPRESENTATIVE CONNIE MACK 17 REPRESENTATIVE JERRY G. MELVIN 18 REPRESENTATIVE SANDRA L. MURMAN 19 REPRESENTATIVE TIMOTHY M. RYAN 20 REPRESENTATIVE MITCH NEEDELMAN 21 REPRESENTATIVE STACY J. RITTER 22 REPRESENTATIVE JOHN P. SEILER 23 REPRESENTATIVE ELEANOR SOBEL 24 REPRESENTATIVE MARK WEISSMAN 25 REPRESENTATIVE ROGER B. WISHNER DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p> <p>1 results in this region and the state. The rest is reserved 2 for you, the citizens. 3 Every ten years after the completion of the updated 4 national census, the Constitution requires that the Florida 5 Legislature redraw the boundaries of districts for the 6 Florida House of Representatives, Florida Senate, and for 7 the United States Congress. This legislative task will 8 begin as the Legislature meets January 22nd, 2002, and will 9 end March 22nd, 2002. The districts we draw will first be 10 used in the November 2002 elections. 11 Redistricting is a central element of our 12 representative democracy and we take this on with humility 13 in regard for the importance and difficulty of this job. 14 We are committed to the process, that it would be fair and 15 open and inclusive. The public hearings represent a 16 crucial first step in this process. We appreciate that we 17 are doing the work of the people, we want to hear from you 18 and help you participate in a meaningful way. 19 To encourage public participation Senate President 20 John McKay and House Speaker Tom Feeney have scheduled 24 21 public hearings throughout the state. All members of the 22 Legislature's Redistricting Committee as well as local 23 delegation matters have been invited to these public 24 hearings. The House and Senate have designed web sites as 25 a tool for public input and will broadcast select hearings DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p> <p>1 PROCEEDINGS 2 (Pledge of Allegiance.) 3 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Good morning and thank you for 4 coming today. I am Daniel Webster, Senate District 12, 5 Chairman of the Senate Reapportionment Committee. It's my 6 pleasure to welcome you to this public hearing, one of many 7 we are holding throughout the summer and fall. Let me 8 first explain the procedure that we will be using 9 throughout these public hearings. This is a public 10 hearing, and the sole and only purpose is to hear from the 11 public on matters of redistricting. This is not a 12 committee meeting, we will not be taking legislative action 13 in this or subsequent hearings. Instead, this is a public 14 forum where we will have the opportunity to receive citizen 15 input about your electoral districts. 16 It's not the time for legislative debate. All 17 Representatives and Senators will have numerous 18 opportunities in subsequent committee meetings and 19 committee hearings and floor debates to address all of the 20 members' concerns and wishes. Today, however, is for our 21 constituents. We must not diminish their vote by taking up 22 valuable time today in debate. 23 Following my brief remarks Counsel will give a general 24 overview of legal considerations in redistricting. Staff 25 will then provide some specific information about census DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p> <p>1 on Florida's public television stations. The web address 2 for the House and the Senate legislative redistricting are 3 available at the information table. A link will also be 4 available from the Florida web site. 5 The redistricting plan for the State House and State 6 Senate will pass in the form of a joint resolution and will 7 not be subject to the veto or approval of the Governor but 8 will be reviewed by the Florida Supreme Court. 9 The plan for congressional redistricting will be a 10 bill and that will not be reviewed by the Supreme Court, 11 but will be subject to the Governor's approval or veto. I 12 encourage everyone to carefully review the 2000 Census, it 13 is the essential building block on which Florida's 14 redistricting plans will be built. The address for the 15 United States Census web site is available also at the 16 information table. 17 We are here to listen and consider your voice. We 18 encourage each member of the public to testify and help us 19 craft your legislative districts. We also encourage 20 written submissions in addition to the testimony during the 21 public hearing. Everyone wishing to speak must fill out a 22 speaker's card, which also are available on the back table. 23 This is the only way we will know who wishes to speak, and 24 after the hearing, who actually spoke. 25 Speaker's cards are available at the sign-in table. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p> <p>1 We want to hear from as many people as possible; therefore, 2 we must limit comments to four minutes. On behalf of 3 Senate President John McKay, House Speaker Tom Feeney, the 4 members of the Florida Legislature, I look forward to 5 working with all of you on this historic and important 6 task.</p> <p>7 At this time, I would like to recognize House counsel, 8 Mr. Perez, who will give us an overview of the legal 9 considerations. Mr. Perez, you are recognized.</p> <p>10 MR. PEREZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the record, 11 my name is Richard A. Perez and I'm counsel to the Florida 12 House of Representatives for reapportionment and 13 redistricting matters. I'm here together with my 14 colleague, Senator Jim Scott, who is counsel for the 15 Florida Senate. I will be giving you a brief overview of 16 the law regarding reapportionment and redistricting for the 17 benefit of the members as well as the public.</p> <p>18 This presentation is by no means intended to be a 19 comprehensive or complete review of the issues related to 20 the topic, but it is intended to give all of you an 21 introduction to the basic principles and constraints that 22 will guide the decision-making of our State Legislature as 23 it proceeds with this very important task.</p> <p>24 The task of reapportionment and redistricting is the 25 process of dividing residents of a jurisdiction, in this DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p> <p>1 citizens. Then legislative committees will convene this 2 fall, and beginning in January the full Legislature will 3 begin the process of developing and considering different 4 districting plans. The regular session ends in March 2002.</p> <p>5 Although the legislative process can be concluded in 6 the regular session for redistricting, the Constitution 7 does provide for additional sessions and review processes 8 in the event that the work of the Legislature on 9 redistricting is not completed within the regular session. 10 For example, the Florida Constitution requires the Governor 11 to reconvene the Legislature in a special session in the 12 event that redistricting plans are not adopted in the 13 regular session. This special session on redistricting 14 shall not exceed 30 consecutive days. From here the 15 process becomes a little more tedious and technical, but 16 let me attempt to explain them by talking about the 17 Congressional process first and then the State legislative 18 process.</p> <p>19 If during the regular session reapportionment plans 20 are adopted by the Legislature or Congress, the Governor 21 has the opportunity to approve or veto the adopted plans. 22 Under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, which we will 23 discuss in a minute, the Justice Department or the United 24 States Federal District Court of the District of Columbia 25 must also review certain parts of the plan in a process DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p> <p>1 case, the residents of the entire State of Florida, into 2 different electoral seats or districts. Reapportionment 3 and redistricting -- the task of reapportionment and 4 redistricting is the process, as I explained.</p> <p>5 Reapportionment or redistricting are constitutional 6 requirements and both the Florida Constitution and the 7 United States Constitution require this process to commence 8 every ten years after the census.</p> <p>9 Because of Florida's population increase over the last 10 ten years, Florida will have two additional members in the 11 United States Congress, a total of 25 seats. Therefore, 12 with regards to Congressional Districting, the State 13 Legislature will need to create 25 separate, contiguous 14 districts to cover the entire state, one for each of those 15 members of Congress. The Legislature will also need to 16 divide the state into 40 State Senate Districts and 120 17 State House of Representatives Districts. Although the 18 Legislature may, if they choose to, reduce the number of 19 seats in Senate and House Districts to as low as 30 and 80, 20 respectively.</p> <p>21 The Florida Constitution also requires that State 22 House and Senate Districts be consecutively numbered and 23 either contiguous, overlapping or identical territory. 24 Commencing with this public hearing process the State 25 Legislature will begin considering the opinion of Florida DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 known as preclearance.</p> <p>2 Now, with respect to the State House and Senate seats. 3 If the Legislature adopts redistricting plans, then 15 days 4 after passage the Florida Attorney General is required to 5 petition the Florida Supreme Court for a determination of 6 the validity of the Legislature's plan. If the Florida 7 Supreme Court declares the Legislature's plan to be 8 invalid, then the Constitution mandates that within five 9 days of such determination the Governor must reconvene the 10 Legislature in an extraordinary session of no more than 15 11 days, at which session the Legislature adopts the joint 12 resolution conforming to the judgment of the Florida 13 Supreme Court.</p> <p>14 Assuming the regular and special session ends without 15 the adoption of a redistricting plan for the State 16 Legislature, the Attorney General must petition the Supreme 17 Court to commence deliberations on the establishment of a 18 redistricting plan. Within 60 days of such petition, the 19 Florida Supreme Court must file an order setting forth such 20 a plan. As with Congressional redistricting, there must a 21 preclearance analysis on selected portions of Florida's 22 plan.</p> <p>23 In effect, to recap, the two different processes with 24 respect to Congressional Redistricting, the Governor is 25 powered by the Constitution to sign or veto the bill, DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 subject, of course, by a legislative override. With 2 respect to state redistricting, it is the State Supreme 3 Court and not the Governor that will review the plan to 4 determine its validity. 5 Now, let's talk a little bit about redistricting 6 principles. In adopting a redistricting plan the 7 Legislature will be guided by several factors including, A, 8 the principle of one person, one vote. And, B, the 9 requirements of the United States Constitution and Federal 10 Statutes. The principle commonly referred to as one 11 person, one vote, developed from a series of landmark 12 United States Supreme Court cases in the 1960s. Generally 13 this principal stands for the proposition that each 14 person's vote should count as much as anyone else's vote. 15 In the context of redistricting this principle was 16 used to defeat the practice of several states in 17 maintaining districts for legislative offices that were 18 substantially different in population. The Supreme Court 19 concluded that significant disparities in district 20 population resulted in each vote in the district with 21 smaller population actually carrying more weight than the 22 vote in the larger districts. 23 In effect, the one person, one vote standard forbids 24 major disparities in the creation of Congressional and 25 Legislative Districts. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 this type of review. The courts have stated that Section 2 2 and Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act entail different 3 processes of analysis. Under Section 5, covered 4 jurisdictions are required to submit any proposed change to 5 their practices or procedures affecting voting, including 6 any changes to election districts resulting from 7 redistricting for approval by either the Attorney General 8 of the United States or the Federal District of the -- 9 Federal District Court of the District of Columbia prior to 10 implementation. 11 This process is known as preclearance. In Florida the 12 covered jurisdictions include Collier, Hardee, Hendry, 13 Hillsborough and Monroe counties. The vast majority of 14 preclearance requests are made directly to the Attorney 15 General's office. Preclearance is obtained if the Attorney 16 General effectively indicates that the office has no 17 objection to the change or, if at the expiration of 60 days 18 from submission no objection to the submitted change has 19 been made by the Attorney General. Whether it is through 20 the court proceeding or the administrative process, through 21 the Attorney General's Office, the covered jurisdiction 22 bears the burden of demonstrating that the proposed voting 23 change does not have the purpose and will not have the 24 effect of denying or abridging the right to vote on account 25 of race, or color, or membership in a language minority DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 For Congressional Districts the courts have instituted 2 the strictest standard. As rule of the thumb, population 3 among different districts in one state should be 4 substantially less than 1 percent overall deviation. 5 Deviation is analyzed based on the concept of the ideal 6 district size. For example, in the case of Florida, if you 7 take the state's total population and divide it by 25 8 Congressional Districts, the resulting number would be the 9 ideal size of each district in the state. 10 Congressional Districts should then be drawn to be 11 well within 1 percent of this ideal number. For State 12 Legislative Districts the courts have permitted a greater 13 deviation among districts and courts have accepted 14 differences between districts of up to 10 percent total 15 deviation in certain circumstances. 16 Other important standards is standards that factor 17 into the Legislature's consideration are set forth in the 18 Voting Rights Act of 1964 and the Equal Protection Clause 19 of the United States Constitution. Section 2 of the Voting 20 Rights Act prohibits any practice or procedure including 21 certain redistricting practices that impair the ability of 22 a minority community to elect candidates of choice on an 23 equal basis with nonminority voters. Another section of 24 the Voting Rights Act, Section 5, applies to certain 25 jurisdictions that have previously met the criteria for DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 group. 2 The analysis performed under Section 5 is also at 3 times called a retrogression analysis. In conclusion, 4 Mr. Chairman, as some of us know well, the legal rules 5 regarding the redistricting and reapportionment process are 6 indeed complex. And this short presentation can only 7 provide very general guidance on some of the delicate legal 8 issues that will apply to the process, some of which have 9 not been fully decided by the courts. Mr. Chairman, on 10 behalf of my Senate colleagues and the House legal team, we 11 thank you for the opportunity to make this presentation. 12 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you, Mr. Perez. At this time 13 I would like to recognize Todd Thompson who is the staff 14 director of the redistricting committee in the House and he 15 will make a presentation on census data about the state and 16 then, more specific, this local area. Mr. Thompson, you 17 are recognized. 18 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the 19 Chairman said, I'll give a brief census overview starting 20 with the State of Florida and then I'll give some local 21 census information. Florida's population, according to the 22 2000 Census is just under 16 million people. We grew by 23 just over 3 million over the 1990 census or at a rate of 23 24 and a half percent. As a result of this growth Florida 25 gained two new Congressional seats and we now have a grand DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p> <p>1 total of 25 seats in Congress.</p> <p>2 Florida's population, the five most populous counties</p> <p>3 in Florida are Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach,</p> <p>4 Hillsborough and Pinellas. Flagler County was the fastest</p> <p>5 growing county in terms of percentage rate of growth in the</p> <p>6 state at a 73.6 percent rate. The five fastest growing</p> <p>7 counties in terms of percentage rate of growth are Flagler,</p> <p>8 Sumter, Collier, Wakulla, and Osceola counties.</p> <p>9 Jacksonville remains Florida's most populous city with a</p> <p>10 population of just over 735,000. The five most populous</p> <p>11 cities in Florida are Jacksonville, Miami, Tampa, St.</p> <p>12 Petersburg, and Hialeah.</p> <p>13 Minority population in Florida has increased over the</p> <p>14 past ten years. The African-American population has</p> <p>15 increased to over 2.3 million or 14.6 percent of Florida's</p> <p>16 population. And the Hispanic population in Florida has</p> <p>17 grown to almost 2.7 million and has surpassed the</p> <p>18 African-American population as the largest minority in the</p> <p>19 State of Florida; Hispanic population making up about</p> <p>20 16.8 percent of Florida's population.</p> <p>21 The median age in Florida has risen to 38.7 years,</p> <p>22 this is an increase of almost 2 and a-half years from the</p> <p>23 1990 Census. Age 65 plus, our most available resource here</p> <p>24 in Florida, according to the 2000 Census, there are now</p> <p>25 over 2.8 million Floridians aged 65 and above. And while</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p> <p>1 you can find the addresses for these at the information in</p> <p>2 the back. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.</p> <p>3 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Before we start, I</p> <p>4 would like to recognize the president of the Broward</p> <p>5 Community College, Dr. Holcombe. And if you would like to</p> <p>6 make a few welcoming remarks, you are recognized.</p> <p>7 DR. HOLCOMBE: Thank you, Senator Webster. Senators,</p> <p>8 Representatives, welcome to Broward Community College's</p> <p>9 south campus. This is our fastest growing campus and one</p> <p>10 of the fastest growing areas of Broward County. Dr. Mont</p> <p>11 Smith is the Provost of this campus, Mont. He and his</p> <p>12 staff have worked hard to make you feel at home today. We</p> <p>13 have about 11,000 students who are also finding home here</p> <p>14 today.</p> <p>15 So, if you had trouble finding parking, we apologize,</p> <p>16 but that is a daily occurrence here at the campus. And</p> <p>17 Barbara Cohen Pippin will be with us, and Barbara, where</p> <p>18 did she go? There she is. Barbara will attend to whatever</p> <p>19 needs you have today. I hope you have a great day and we</p> <p>20 look forward to seeing you this afternoon at central</p> <p>21 campus. Thank you.</p> <p>22 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you.</p> <p>23 DR. HOLCOMBE: And Mr. Chairman, I have made a</p> <p>24 grievous error, I would like to introduce to you one of our</p> <p>25 Board of Trustee members who is here today, Ms. Cheryl</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p> <p>1 this is an increase of over 400,000 since 1990, the actual</p> <p>2 percentage of the population aged 65 and above has</p> <p>3 decreased from 18.3 percent to 17.6 percent.</p> <p>4 As Mr. Perez touched on, the ideal population per</p> <p>5 district is calculated by dividing the number of districts</p> <p>6 into the total population for the state. And for</p> <p>7 redistricting purposes at this time each State House</p> <p>8 District will have about 133,000 people per district. Each</p> <p>9 State Senate District will have about 400,000 people per</p> <p>10 district. And each Congressional District will have</p> <p>11 639,295 people in each district.</p> <p>12 Now, I'll give you an overview for the Broward County</p> <p>13 area. According to the 2000 Census, Broward County's</p> <p>14 population has grown to over 1.6 million people. This is a</p> <p>15 29.3 percent increase over the 1990 population. And the</p> <p>16 City of Fort Lauderdale's population was just over 152,000.</p> <p>17 To our south, Miami-Dade County, the largest county in</p> <p>18 the State of Florida has just over 2.25 million people.</p> <p>19 This is an increase of 16.3 percent over 1990. And Monroe</p> <p>20 County to the south has now 79,589 people, 2 percent</p> <p>21 increase over 1990. And Monroe County is the slowest</p> <p>22 growing county in the State of Florida over the last ten</p> <p>23 years.</p> <p>24 And you can find this information and more at the two</p> <p>25 redistricting web sites, the House and the Senate, which</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p> <p>1 Krause, Cheryl. I apologize.</p> <p>2 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, as I</p> <p>3 stated earlier, I'll be using speaker cards which are like</p> <p>4 this to call upon each member of the audience. If you will</p> <p>5 notice in the right-hand corner -- left-hand corner there</p> <p>6 is a number stamped and we will go in ascending order and</p> <p>7 we will just be calling you by number. When you come to</p> <p>8 the podium if you would state your name that would help the</p> <p>9 court reporter as she tries to make sure we document who</p> <p>10 has appeared. If there's anyone who wishes to speak who</p> <p>11 has not filled out one of these cards, you can go to the</p> <p>12 sign-in table outside and the staff will help you do that.</p> <p>13 Please remember for everyone to speak we are limiting</p> <p>14 you to four minutes. There will be time kept. We will try</p> <p>15 to warn you within 30 or 20 seconds so you will know when</p> <p>16 to wrap up. And also if you would like to make written</p> <p>17 testimony, you can do that and submit it. If you are not</p> <p>18 speaking, you can do that, or if you are speaking and you</p> <p>19 would like to have some extra testimony, you can do that.</p> <p>20 And then there's also, if you have any handouts, if you</p> <p>21 will leave them on one of the front tables or the chairs or</p> <p>22 something, we will get those. Anywhere you put them we</p> <p>23 will be able to pick those up and enter them into the</p> <p>24 record.</p> <p>25 So we are ready to start, and we'll start with</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p> <p>1 Number 1.</p> <p>2 MR. CAESER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is</p> <p>3 Mitchell Caesar and I'm proud to be the chairman of the</p> <p>4 Broward County Democratic Executive Committee. Before I go</p> <p>5 forward, let me thank you for the opportunity to address</p> <p>6 this honorable body. Mr. Chair and members of the</p> <p>7 committee, as a lawyer I understand that while it's illegal</p> <p>8 to draw districts based primarily on considerations of</p> <p>9 race, there's nothing illegal about drawing lines based on</p> <p>10 political affiliation. Broward County is close to a half</p> <p>11 of a million registered Democrats, more than any of</p> <p>12 Florida's other 66 counties. Voter registration data shows</p> <p>13 that there are more registered Democrats in Florida than</p> <p>14 there are Republicans, yet in the 2000 Presidential</p> <p>15 Election, where George Bush was declared the winner by a</p> <p>16 mere 500 votes statewide demonstrated that when it comes to</p> <p>17 actual voting Floridians are pretty much evenly divided,</p> <p>18 yet Republicans hold significant majorities in the State</p> <p>19 House, Senate, and Congressional Delegations.</p> <p>20 I urge you and your colleagues to draw district lines</p> <p>21 for the State House, the State Senate and Congressional</p> <p>22 Districts that are likely to elect candidates whose</p> <p>23 political affiliations are representative of Florida's</p> <p>24 voters. Given that Florida's voters are more evenly split</p> <p>25 between Democrats and Republicans, our district at every</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p> <p>1 not divided up, so that you have half of an elementary</p> <p>2 school going in one legislative district and half going</p> <p>3 into another. I strongly urge you to consider these</p> <p>4 proposals and I thank you very much for the time.</p> <p>5 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 2.</p> <p>6 MR. WAGANHEIM: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and honored</p> <p>7 members of the redistricting committee, my name is Art</p> <p>8 Waganheim, I am a resident of Cooper City, Florida, which</p> <p>9 is located in Southwest Broward County. In the ten years</p> <p>10 in which my wife and I have lived in Southwest Broward</p> <p>11 County, I have seen this area develop into a true community</p> <p>12 of common interests, we have common shopping districts,</p> <p>13 common recreation areas, as well as now being home to</p> <p>14 plentiful schools, health care facilities and places of</p> <p>15 worship.</p> <p>16 Having reviewed the Florida House Districts that were</p> <p>17 formed in 1990 that represent this area, it is apparent to</p> <p>18 me that a major shift in representation is now needed to</p> <p>19 properly handle our community's common interests. After</p> <p>20 reading numerous newspaper articles on the current</p> <p>21 redistricting process I obtained a copy of the FREDSD</p> <p>22 software program so that I could put together a House</p> <p>23 district that I believe best supporting my community's</p> <p>24 requirements for representation.</p> <p>25 In order to generate the sufficient population count</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p> <p>1 level should be drawn to reflect that even or split.</p> <p>2 If you truly intend to be fair, as I'm sure you do, as</p> <p>3 you say, you will then be, Mr. Chairman and members of the</p> <p>4 committee, you should include party affiliation as one of</p> <p>5 the many factors that you take into consideration drawing</p> <p>6 district lines. You should consider, with Broward's strong</p> <p>7 Democratic registration and performance, that we should be</p> <p>8 able to continue to elect Democrats if that does indeed</p> <p>9 reflect our resident concerns and our demographics.</p> <p>10 Additionally, on a different note, I want to talk</p> <p>11 about communities of interest and specifically how it</p> <p>12 pertains to Broward. For example, in Broward,</p> <p>13 environmental concerns, educational concerns, housing</p> <p>14 concerns, and growth management concerns are very clear.</p> <p>15 The reason that's important, beyond the legal precedent</p> <p>16 making that necessary, is that you also must take into</p> <p>17 political consideration, and rational consideration,</p> <p>18 perhaps more importantly, that political subdivisions such</p> <p>19 as cities and counties must be considered in all proposals.</p> <p>20 To break county lines, and more specifically city lines, I</p> <p>21 believe would be inappropriate, as I'm sure you do as well.</p> <p>22 One last point, if I may. I think you all seem to</p> <p>23 look at feeder patterns for communities and specifically</p> <p>24 cities and school districts to some extent so that cities</p> <p>25 that have children who go to particular schools are also</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>1 to form a Florida House District for my Southwest Broward</p> <p>2 County neighborhood, I looked for common occupations,</p> <p>3 similar housing values, consistent family income, and even</p> <p>4 a fair distribution of political party registration. I</p> <p>5 believe that I have developed a Florida House District that</p> <p>6 ties together the common interests that most residents of</p> <p>7 Cooper City and Davie, along with a sufficient quantity of</p> <p>8 residents of Southwest Ranches, Northern Pembroke Pines and</p> <p>9 Southern Plantation to meet the population requirements for</p> <p>10 a Florida House District.</p> <p>11 In drawing this proposed House District I've loosely</p> <p>12 defined the proposed geographic area by using common</p> <p>13 highways and major streets. I'm attaching several maps,</p> <p>14 which I'll turn in, that I demonstrated on the FREDSD</p> <p>15 software program, which demonstrates my proposed Florida</p> <p>16 House District and reinforces the commonality of the cities</p> <p>17 and neighborhoods which I have included based on their</p> <p>18 residents' occupations, housing values, and family income.</p> <p>19 I thank you for this opportunity to share my views on</p> <p>20 redistricting and hope that my research proves helpful in</p> <p>21 your decisions about how to best build a Florida House</p> <p>22 District which supports and protects the common interests</p> <p>23 of our communities in Southwest Broward.</p> <p>24 In summary, I urge you to look at the facts and the</p> <p>25 figures when drawing the new districts throughout Broward</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 County rather than solely relying on organized lobbying 2 efforts and partisan emotions. Thank you for your time. 3 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 3. 4 MS. GREEN: Good morning, my name is Karen Green, and 5 I live in Dania. I am a member of the American Federation 6 of State, County and Municipal Employees. I want to thank 7 the committee for holding this hearing on redistricting, 8 but I think by having this hearing in the morning you will 9 not have a chance to hear from most people who have to 10 work. I had to take this day off so that I would be able 11 to attend. I would ask that in the future you do 12 everything in your power to make sure that it is an open 13 and accessible process and that you make all information 14 easily available to the public, no matter where they live. 15 Putting all information on the legislative web site would 16 be the best method in my opinion. 17 As far as redistricting in this area, I think it is 18 important to keep similar communities of interest grouped 19 together. Congressman Peter Deutsch, State Senator Steven 20 Geller, and State Senator Debbie Wasserman-Schultz have 21 done an outstanding job in representing our community and 22 interests. I think that their new district reflects their 23 current makeup. I ask that no plan be prepared or debated 24 until all full public debate on specific guidelines is held 25 and guidelines are adopted and published. I ask that as a DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 We selected Dania because we thought it had many of 2 the values of a small American town. Such small towns are 3 rare in South Florida. I'm pleased to say that by our hard 4 work, we prevailed. Three of the four areas included and 5 chose Dania, two by a vote of 67 percent and one by an 6 overwhelming vote of 81 percent. Please do not negate our 7 efforts by fracturing Dania into more than one district. 8 Incidentally, Dania is the oldest incorporated city in 9 Broward County. There's not a long trail of history in 10 South Florida, please do not desiccate this small bit of it 11 by dividing Dania into more than one district. 12 Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you for your attention, 13 also I hope that I can thank you for your favorable 14 consideration and not divide our community. Thank you very 15 much. 16 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 5. Number 6. 17 MR. STERMER: Senator Webster, members of the 18 committee, good morning, my name is Daniel Stermer, and I 19 am a resident of the City of Weston. As most of you know, 20 Weston is one of the newer cities here in Broward County. 21 Our population in the city is in excess of 53,000 people. 22 We are lucky to be represented by Representative Rich, 23 Senator Wasserman-Schultz and Congressman Peter Deutsch. 24 Ladies and gentlemen, I attended two weekends ago, a 25 meeting at the Wyndham Hotel for the master plan of I-75. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 minimum these guidelines provide that districts meet all 2 legal and constitutional requirements and that are as 3 compact as possible considering the necessity of protecting 4 voting rights for minorities, protecting communities of 5 interest, and reflecting political subdivisions. 6 Finally, I again stress the need that all legislative 7 actions on redistricting and reapportionment take place at 8 times and in locales that maximize citizens' participation. 9 Thank you for the chance to speak here today. 10 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 4. 11 MR. DRAKE: Good morning ladies and gentlemen of the 12 Florida Legislature. My name is Grady Drake, I'm 79 years 13 old, I was born in West Palm Beach, and my grandfather came 14 to South Florida from Oklahoma in 1909. I'm president of 15 the Shady Ridge Homeowner's Association, and for the first 16 28 and a-half years of its existence, I was the director of 17 libraries of Broward Community College. 18 I'm here to urge you not to split Dania into more than 19 one legislative district. I live at 3901 Southwest 20 Shadyridge Road, that part of Broward County which had to 21 be annexed to a municipality in the November 20th election. 22 Our area is almost entirely residential. 7,500 very happy 23 people live here. My neighbors and I spent a lot of time, 24 energy, and some money canvassing this area in the hot days 25 of August prior to the election of 1920 -- in 2000. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p>1 We were invited by the Florida Department of 2 Transportation. Six cities, Sunrise, Weston, Pembroke 3 Pines, Miramar, Davie, and Southwest Ranches because we all 4 have this commonality of community interest. We are asked 5 what we thought should be done with regard to the expansion 6 of I-75. 7 In addition to the transportation issue, I'm also 8 involved with the education issues here in Broward County. 9 I'm a member of the Coalition for School Improvement in 10 Broward county -- in Weston, I'm sorry, which impact and we 11 try to have an impact on the boundary issue. Ladies and 12 gentlemen, the districts here we know are overpopulated. 13 Your task as the elected representatives are to put 14 together a plan that will stand court and constitutional 15 challenge. We understand that senator Wasserman-Schultz's 16 district is in excess of 100,000 people, same way with 17 Representative Rich's. The question becomes how do you 18 divide these districts to meet the acceptable and 19 permissible deviations from the norm. 20 One of the ways to potentially deal with Senator 21 Wasserman-Schultz's issue is to draw the boundary at the 22 county line. Roughly that would take 98,000 people and 23 move them to Miami-Dade County. 24 And with regard to Representative Rich's district, we 25 would like to see you keep the core part of that district DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p> <p>1 together. One of the things that we implore you to do is 2 to do something that Broward County Commission did not do. 3 The Broward County Commission when it redistricted divided 4 the City of Weston. We now have two separate commissioners 5 that deal with our city. We believe that could be harmful 6 for our city. We would like to see that this body, when it 7 creates districts, create it so that each city can look to 8 one Representative, one Senator, and one Congressperson. 9 Thank you very much.</p> <p>10 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 7. Thank you 11 for being so prompt.</p> <p>12 MS. MERSINGER: Well, I followed my instructions. Mr. 13 Chairman, Honored Members of the Committee, my name is 14 Alanna Mersinger, I am from Miramar, Florida, and I come 15 before you today to speak on behalf of myself and my 16 children. I'm extremely active within many school-based 17 organizations, but I'm not here as their representative 18 today, I come today as a parent. As you contemplate the 19 difficult task before you, I believe it's necessary to put 20 aside partisanship and consider the concept of one person, 21 one vote. Don't dilute my voice.</p> <p>22 I have three children in three very overcrowded 23 schools. My youngest son's elementary school was capped at 24 1840 children. My daughter goes to a middle school with 25 over 2500 children, and my son goes to the famous or DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p> <p>1 people and their concerns into consideration and put the 2 politics aside for once. I may appear to be very selfish, 3 and you are right, I want and I demand proper 4 representation for my children. What type of parent would 5 I be if I didn't look to do what was right for my children? 6 And in keeping with that concept, what type of legislative 7 committee would you be if you didn't do the right thing by 8 the people of this state? Thank you for your time.</p> <p>9 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 8.</p> <p>10 MS. SOLTANIPOUR: Mr. Chairman and honored members of 11 the committee, my name is Marilyn Soltanipour and I live in 12 Pembroke Pines, Florida. I'm here today to express my 13 concerns for the future of my district and my county. I 14 moved to Pembroke Pines a little over six years ago and 15 since then have experienced, as the rest of my neighbors 16 have, all of the pains that come with rapid development, 17 overcrowded schools, road expansions, traffic delays, 18 insurance hikes, environmental concerns, et cetera. And 19 yet, it is through these common experiences that this new 20 developed area has so quickly bounded into communities. It 21 is through our common needs that we bond together as 22 neighbors, and it is through our common goals that we can 23 work effectively with our elected officials. Therefore, I 24 ask you to place into districts those areas that share 25 common interests. There has been talk of penny scenarios DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p> <p>1 infamous Flanagan High School with approximately 5600 2 students. This is approximately 10,000 students within 3 three schools. The enrollment of those schools constitutes 4 a small county within themselves. Don't make my 5 representative split his or her efforts on behalf of my 6 children between one or more counties. With the 7 overwhelming growth issues that are now being felt in 8 western Broward County I want to make sure that I'm being 9 truly represented. It may seem a little simplistic, but 10 you can't dance to more than one fiddle. And I want my 11 representative dancing to my fiddle.</p> <p>12 We here in Broward County have similar issues, needs, 13 and therefore should have proper representation that has 14 some continuity. This is about one person, one vote, which 15 should equate to representing people with common issues. 16 This should have nothing to do with gerrymandering for the 17 sake of party politics. What does my community with its 18 urban sprawl and ever overcrowded schools have to do with 19 the issues in somewhere such as Collier County? 20 Considering the fact that we have to fight for every dollar 21 that we get for our schools, I want someone strictly 22 concentrating on my communities, not those in another 23 county with dissimilar concerns.</p> <p>24 I realize because of our amazing growth we need to 25 redistrict to bring the numbers into line. Let's just take DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p> <p>1 changing our district to encompass areas in Miami-Dade 2 and/or Collier counties in an effort to benefit one 3 political party over another. I believe that what makes a 4 district is not areas that are designed to garner one 5 political agenda or another. As a matter of fact, this 6 practice can be a dangerous precedent to set since no one 7 can predict which party will control this panel when the 8 next census takes place. Instead, what I believe and hope 9 is that this committee will consider to make districts that 10 are compact, that share common interests, needs, and goals.</p> <p>11 Both Miami-Dade and Collier have needs of their own, 12 and just as we deserve to be fully represented so do they. 13 To allow for anything else would be to place our 14 representatives, people like yourselves, in a position 15 where they would have to split their time, energy, and 16 focus, among their very constituencies, representing all 17 and representing none. This is not fair to them, and most 18 importantly, it is not fair to us, the voters. I would 19 like all of you to know that I am one who still fervently 20 believes in the democratic process, who believes that our 21 representatives have our best interests at heart, who 22 believes in fair play, and who believes that the strength 23 of our country and our government lies in the ability of 24 its people to work together. I believe that you will do no 25 less. I pray you do not disappoint me. Thank you for the DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p> <p>1 opportunity to speak here today.</p> <p>2 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 9.</p> <p>3 MAYOR MOSELEY: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and</p> <p>4 honorable members of the committee, I feel like I should be</p> <p>5 just a little taller. My name is Lori Moseley and I am the</p> <p>6 mayor of the City of Miramar here in Broward County.</p> <p>7 Broward County consists of 30 different municipalities,</p> <p>8 some are larger than others, but none is so large that it</p> <p>9 should be divided among several dissimilar districts. Each</p> <p>10 one of the municipalities constitutes a community of</p> <p>11 interest with its own unique needs and character. The</p> <p>12 residents live, work, and play together; they know each</p> <p>13 other and share the same day-to-day issues and concerns. I</p> <p>14 urge you to respect the commonality that these municipal</p> <p>15 boundaries have and not divide cities of like needs and</p> <p>16 interests among several House, Senate and Congressional</p> <p>17 Districts.</p> <p>18 Although, as I understand it, you have not yet adopted</p> <p>19 criteria that will guide you during the actual drawing of</p> <p>20 the district map. I urge you to include among the criteria</p> <p>21 that you select the traditional redistricting principles</p> <p>22 which says that you should respect municipal and county</p> <p>23 boundaries.</p> <p>24 By doing so, you will avoid diluting the influence of</p> <p>25 our residents. Rather than being relegated to a small</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p> <p>1 Our Hispanic population, while significant throughout</p> <p>2 the county, is especially concentrated in a particular</p> <p>3 area, which is Southwest Broward. For the record, here is</p> <p>4 a map which I took from the Miami Herald newspaper, showing</p> <p>5 the concentrations of the Hispanic population, in</p> <p>6 particular, Miramar, the City of Pembroke Pines where you</p> <p>7 are in, and you will find other areas like Hollywood and</p> <p>8 other pockets into Weston. But in particular, my concern</p> <p>9 is Southwest Broward.</p> <p>10 The Hispanic population to-date has grown to</p> <p>11 17 percent in Broward County, yet it is not represented.</p> <p>12 Due to it is the fastest growing segment of the population</p> <p>13 and we feel that it is time we have our share of the plate.</p> <p>14 When crafting new legislative lines I believe that it is</p> <p>15 incumbent that you look at the Hispanic population and you</p> <p>16 allow the ability for -- I am sorry.</p> <p>17 REPRESENTATIVE GELLER: Sir, they can't see your map.</p> <p>18 Sorry to interrupt.</p> <p>19 MR. MARANTE: That's okay. Our Broward Hispanic</p> <p>20 community is quite diverse. It's made up of many</p> <p>21 nationalities but not denominated by one particular group</p> <p>22 like it is in Miami-Dade. Even though there's a large</p> <p>23 Cuban-American community there is a large Columbian</p> <p>24 community, Venezuelan community, Brazilian community. You</p> <p>25 will find Hispanics from every realm. There's not one</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p> <p>1 portion of a dissimilar district, like municipalities need</p> <p>2 to be kept intact within a single district. It will afford</p> <p>3 the residents of those municipalities a stronger voice, and</p> <p>4 therefore, a better opportunity to have their needs met and</p> <p>5 their concerns addressed. Thank you for this opportunity</p> <p>6 to address you.</p> <p>7 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. We may be a little bit</p> <p>8 out of order here, but Number 13. Number 13.</p> <p>9 (Pause.)</p> <p>10 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: We will do 13 and then we'll get</p> <p>11 this worked out.</p> <p>12 MR. MARANTE: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and members</p> <p>13 of the joint committee. Thank you for coming to Broward</p> <p>14 County, the second largest county in the State of Florida,</p> <p>15 and the second largest voting county in the State of</p> <p>16 Florida. My name is Rolyn Marante, I reside at 145</p> <p>17 Northwest 164th Avenue here in Pembroke Pines. I stand</p> <p>18 before you today as not only as a citizen of Broward County</p> <p>19 and Pembroke Pines, but as the vice-chairman of</p> <p>20 governmental affairs for the Florida State Hispanic Chamber</p> <p>21 of Commerce in Florida.</p> <p>22 This year with redistricting, it'll be the number one</p> <p>23 legislative priority for our chamber and you will see many</p> <p>24 of us around the state as you go and travel throughout the</p> <p>25 state.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p> <p>1 group that you can call the majority leader; however, there</p> <p>2 is no representation, there is no common voice. And</p> <p>3 because we are so diverse and we are so different, we think</p> <p>4 that it's time that if we draw lines that allow a Hispanic</p> <p>5 to have the opportunity to be elected it is going to be</p> <p>6 much more helpful because they are going to be able to</p> <p>7 represent their community, not only from the traditional</p> <p>8 standpoint, but they are going to be able to penetrate</p> <p>9 these communities that may have special needs that are not</p> <p>10 being addressed.</p> <p>11 Thank all for all that you are doing, God bless you</p> <p>12 and please keep up the good work when you do your</p> <p>13 legislative redistricting.</p> <p>14 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you.</p> <p>15 MR. MARANTE: May I submit a map for the record?</p> <p>16 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Yes, you can. Okay, we are back to</p> <p>17 Number 10. If Number 10 is here. Number 11.</p> <p>18 MR. WARSCH: Thank you very much. I am Barry Warsch,</p> <p>19 city commissioner, City of Cooper City. When I'm late for</p> <p>20 my deposition I'll blame it on the Speaker of the House and</p> <p>21 I will tell them that. If you can do me a favor, Cooper</p> <p>22 City is middle class, middle income, middle-aged,</p> <p>23 middle-of-the-road, and like a piece of Iowa stuck in</p> <p>24 middle of Broward County to those who aren't familiar with</p> <p>25 it. We will not get 1,000 people out to a meeting in the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p>1 middle of the day by putting out 1,000 bagels and a 1,000 2 cups of coffee. We will not be able to get bus loads of 3 people to a meeting in the middle of the day because we all 4 work. The wives work, the husband works, everyone works. 5 If one of us is off in the middle of the day it means one 6 of our kids got sick at school. So, we are not going to be 7 at these meetings.</p> <p>8 Therefore, as you can see from what people are saying 9 here today, it's very hard for us to have our voices heard 10 in Broward County because we are not part of any group, 11 although, we are racially, ethnically, religiously and 12 culturally diverse; if you ask us what we are, we don't 13 hyphenate. It's very hard for us to have our voices heard. 14 So I urge you, as all of the other cities are doing, to 15 please respect our municipal boundaries, keep us together, 16 not subdivide us, the more you divide us, the more you 17 dilute our strength, the more you dilute our influence, and 18 we will really be disenfranchised the more pieces that we 19 are cut into. And as a municipal official, I don't like 20 when people tell me what to do, so I am not going to tell 21 you what to do and I am not going to stick my nose in your 22 business, but I would just ask you that when you consider 23 the districts in Broward County that you realize that 24 Broward County is a county of cities, each of which are 25 unique, each of which have their own -- although we have a DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p>1 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Number 16. Number 17. Oh, 16 is 2 coming. All right, 16.</p> <p>3 MR. TELLA: Good morning, Mr. Speaker, to all of the 4 legislative delegation, we are here with a busload of 5 people from Century Village East and Deerfield Beach. We 6 could have had ten buses, but the one bus represents the 7 17,000 people in Deerfield Beach, Century East. The common 8 interest with the other Century Villages throughout West 9 Palm Beach and Broward represents many, many people. But 10 look upon us as senior citizens, people of age. 11 Mr. Speaker, if you come up to our district, and when our 12 people come out to vote, you will be amazed how many come 13 in wheelchairs, how many come with walkers, with 14 crutches -- really, take a look at it. And you say, why 15 don't they vote absentee ballots from their home? No, they 16 want to participate. And they want to participate because 17 it is an American tradition to participate.</p> <p>18 And so all of our people and our senior citizens say 19 to you, don't split us apart, we have common interests, 20 community interests, we are very happy with our legislative 21 delegation, we are happy with Mark Weissman, our State 22 Representative. We are happy with Ron Klein, our State 23 Senator, and Roger Wishner. We work very hard with Senator 24 Debbie Wasserman, Sanderson. I, as an advocate of the 25 Democratic party have worked very closely with many of the DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p>1 county-wide school district our high schools tend to be 2 built around our cities. We really try to preserve the 3 small-town atmosphere in a larger county. And please help 4 us maintain that because that's what maintains our social 5 cohesion, that's what helps us stay in control of our 6 communities. And I would just urge you to respect our 7 municipal boundaries in this process. Thank you very much.</p> <p>8 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Number 12. Number 14.</p> <p>9 MS. DELAPENA:: I reside in the City of Miramar here 10 in Broward County. As a Hispanic I'm part of the growing 11 Hispanic population living in Broward, which now makes up 12 17 percent of the people here. To-date, Broward County's 13 large and concentrated Hispanic population has not had the 14 opportunity to elect a candidate of our choice at the 15 congressional, state or local level, largely because of the 16 way that lines were drawn in the past.</p> <p>17 When crafting new legislative lines I believe it's 18 incumbent upon the State of Florida to empower Broward's 19 large and growing Hispanic community by drawing lines that 20 give us the opportunity to elect candidates of our choice. 21 I have some articles to submit here, and I trust that the 22 Legislature will do the right thing for our Hispanic 23 community. Thank you.</p> <p>24 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 15.</p> <p>25 MR. KLEIN: Pass.</p> <p>DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p> <p>1 legislative delegations up there and we feel that we should 2 be kept together. You know, sometimes a language gets a 3 little rough, I say don't use us as yo-yos, don't jerk us 4 around, keep us together, we belong together, we fight 5 together, we pain together, we eat together. Why separate 6 us every ten years?</p> <p>7 Today or tomorrow, the pendulum swings and then you 8 have the Democrats, and they will move it around some more, 9 let's stop it, let's rise above it, let's be statesmen. I 10 am a Democratic advocate, but I have reached the age of 84 11 where I feel that we should mellow, we should think of all 12 of ourselves. I look upon this entire delegation; not only 13 do three people represent us, you all represent us. Some 14 way or another, you pass the bills, we have to live by it, 15 we have to work by it. We want you to keep us together, 16 try to put statesmanship forward and not partisanship. 17 Thank you all for letting me speak.</p> <p>18 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Number 17.</p> <p>19 REVEREND HARRIGAN: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and 20 distinguished members of the committee, my name is Reverend 21 Luke Harrigan, I am a minister among the Haitian people of 22 South Florida. And primarily in Fort lauderdale. Mr. 23 Chairman, according to the slide which you just saw, we saw 24 that the City of Fort Lauderdale had 153,000 people living 25 in it. In Fort Lauderdale, we have at least 60,000 Haitian DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 38</p> <p>1 people, just in Fort Lauderdale, in Broward County. Well, 2 I would say at least 40,000 live in Fort Lauderdale. And 3 our Congressman, Congressman Alcee Hastings, we bug him 4 every day; say Congressman, we need immigration papers, we 5 need this, we need that, every single day, 10:00, 11:00 at 6 night I'm in his office. His chief of staff, getting tired 7 of me. 8 He never says no to us. Mr. Chairman, on behalf of 9 the Haitian people, I just want to let you know that when 10 it comes to District 23, when you draw the line, split, 11 redistricting, everything that you are going to do, when it 12 comes to our Alcee Hastings, please, hold on to that pen, 13 stop, because he helps us, we want him, we want to keep 14 him. Because without him we would not make it. 15 And moreover, I would be more than happy to go to the 16 attention of my dear friends, Governor Jeb Bush and 17 Lieutenant Governor Frank T. Brogan. Both of them are my 18 friends, they will not turn me down. So do your best to 19 keep Congressman Alcee Hastings for me, for the Haitian 20 people. United we stand, divided we fall. May God Bless 21 good ol', good ol' United States of America. 22 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 18. 23 MR. HYDE: Good morning members of the delegation, 24 thank you for having all of these public hearings. It's 25 really great to have a real public input where we don't DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 40</p> <p>1 waterfront communities. We go from east to west of Dania 2 cutoff canal from the beaches to the ICW, all the way to 3 the western border of the city on the Dania cutoff canal. 4 In the east we have very large marine businesses, we have, 5 you know, large shipyards, we have international shipping. 6 And as you go towards the west, we have great residential 7 communities which I'm fortunate to be part of. 8 And the difficulty we have when you start splitting up 9 a city like Dania is that we have so many state issues that 10 deal directly with our community, especially our 11 waterfront, which obviously I have an interest in, whether 12 it is pollution, waterway management, dredging, riparian 13 rights, all of these things come from Tallahassee and they 14 all affect the entire City of Dania Beach. 15 We are currently all in District 29, Senate District 16 29 and House District 99. Hopefully at the end of this 17 process you will not split up the City of Dania Beach into 18 multiple districts. Don't take me wrong, you know, we feel 19 like we have been ably represented by 29 and 99 for a 20 number of years, and I was a part of those districts before 21 it was even in the city so I kind of have a perspective on 22 that. 23 But I do believe if you divide a city like Dania 24 Beach, especially with our location between two larger 25 cities, it might tend to dilute our voice in Tallahassee, DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 39</p> <p>1 actually have to drive all the way to Tallahassee. My name 2 is Bill Hyde and I'm here just representing myself and my 3 family. I live at 4524 Southwest 28th Terrace in Dania 4 Beach. I have been a resident of Broward County for about 5 20 years. 6 My neighborhood was annexed. You heard earlier from a 7 gentleman who was annexed into the City of Dania Beach, and 8 I was really glad to hear that because I was also annexed 9 into the City of Dania Beach January the 1st, 1991. What a 10 great city. To welcome me into the city they elected me 11 directly to the city commission, and I hope that our newly 12 annexed area will also find that, you know, that Dania 13 Beach has been so gracious and welcomes people so much. 14 I currently work for the American Maritime Officers, I 15 am a waterfront operations manager there and I also serve 16 on the city's -- on the county's Marine Advisory Board. 17 Dania is Broward's oldest city, you have already heard 18 that. We have about 26,000 people, and we are nestled 19 between two very large cities in comparison to our city, 20 the City of Fort Lauderdale and the City of Hollywood. But 21 somehow Dania has maintained that hometown feel. You know, 22 everybody is welcomed there. We are a pretty diverse city, 23 but, you know, we do a real good job of making sure that 24 everybody has a place there in Dania. 25 One of our common threads in our city is our DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p> <p>1 which is so important and you might lessen the ability of 2 our residents and our elected officials, you know, to help 3 you to get things done in a way that represents the people 4 of the City of Dania Beach. I'm not here representing them 5 officially, I'm just here because, you know, I think it's 6 really important that cities and towns and communities that 7 have a common interest should also have common 8 representation. Thank you very much. Please don't divide 9 my city, and I hope to see you in 2002. 10 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 19. 11 MR. COHEN: Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, my 12 name is Murray Cohen and I'm here to make sure that I and 13 my fellow Carriage Hills of Hollywood senior citizens are 14 not disenfranchised. We are part of Hollywood and wish to 15 remain so for all of our voting rights. Don't draw lines 16 that take us out of District 100. We at Carriage Hills 17 want to stay just here we are. Our representative Eleanor 18 Sobel has been great for our area, she listens and talks to 19 us, we don't want to lose her. So, you line movers, watch 20 your pencil. You know the old saying, if it ain't broke, 21 don't fix it. Thank you. 22 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 20. 23 MR. BROOKS: Mr. Chairman and members of the 24 committee, I would like to thank you for giving us the 25 opportunity to address you. My name is Bob Brooks, I live DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p> <p>1 in Century Village in Pembroke Pines. I'm proud to say 2 that I have been a Democratic activist for about 50 years, 3 so you know where I'm coming from.</p> <p>4 I am a retired history teacher of almost 30 years on 5 Long Island up in New York. As part of what I taught, of 6 course, was this whole idea of representative government. 7 What it means, what it doesn't mean, how it's been used, 8 how it's been abused. Not by one party, by both parties. 9 Whoever is in the driver's seat tends to try and stay in 10 the driver's seat, that's human nature, understandable.</p> <p>11 I consider myself not naive, not at all, probably some 12 people say I am a cynic, but I think it's about time that 13 all of us take a different look at how we operate, why we 14 operate. If September the 11th changed our minds in the 15 way that we look at things, nothing will. When you look at 16 what probably is going to happen when sending young men to 17 possible harm and even possible problems within the 18 country, the partisan politics situation should take 19 another look at it in a different light.</p> <p>20 Now, that doesn't mean that you give up your party 21 affiliation, it doesn't mean that you are necessarily going 22 to cross party lines when you vote or anything like that, 23 but when it comes to drawing lines, all we should have, we, 24 Democrats and Republicans is a fair, level playing field. 25 That's all it means.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p> <p>1 seniors, retirees from the Northeast and Dade County. We 2 are a community that all have similar interests. We share 3 concerns about the rising cost of health care and insurance 4 while most of us are living on fixed incomes. We are also 5 concerned about the stability of the Social Security system 6 and the continued receipt of Medicare benefits. These are 7 just a few of the interests that we share and the reasons 8 why we constitute a community of interest which should be 9 maintained in a single district. Please do not separate us 10 or divide us, keep the condo communities whole and together 11 in one Senate District.</p> <p>12 Over a third of Senate District 32 where I live 13 consist of seniors like myself, Senator Wasserman-Schultz, 14 Mr. Gottlieb has represented us very well over the last 15 nine years, and we want to keep them representing us for as 16 long as possible. They understand and are very responsive 17 to our needs related to the issues mentioned above. When 18 you redraw Senate District 32, please keep the core of the 19 district intact so that we know that we will continue to 20 have a State Senator and a State Representative who knows 21 us, who cares about us and our concerns and with whom we 22 have established such a good working relationship. Thank 23 you.</p> <p>24 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 22. 25 MR. SHECHTER: Good morning, welcome to Pembroke DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p> <p>1 Now, I happen to live in Century Village. Seniors, we 2 are very satisfied with Mr. Gottlieb, Ms. Schultz, 3 Mr. Deutsch and so on. But if lines are drawn reasonably, 4 according to population, as they are going to have to be 5 changed, there's nothing wrong with that, as long as the 6 intent is not to deprive us a fair playing field, that's 7 all we ask for. That's all anybody should ask for this in 8 this society.</p> <p>9 Now, it may sound corny, patriotic, whatever you want 10 to call it, but one of the reasons that our country is 11 looked upon as the beacon of the way to live is our 12 political system. Please don't abuse it. Thank you.</p> <p>13 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 21. 14 MR. SCHNEIDER: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, members of 15 the committee. My name is Marvin Schneider, I am a 16 resident of Century Village, Pembroke Pines. Century 17 Village is a condominium community located in District 32 18 here in Broward County. There are a number of other condo 19 communities in District 32, Colony Point, Park Place, Hill 20 Crest and Hollybrook. But Century Village is by far the 21 largest with over 15,000 residents. The people of Century 22 Village would like to stay in one district with all of the 23 other condo communities; we do not want to be divided.</p> <p>24 The people of the Village are very similar to people 25 in the aforementioned communities. We are primarily</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p> <p>1 Pines, my name is Carl Shechter, I'm president of 2 Hollybrook Golf and Tennis Club located in Pembroke Pines. 3 I've been watching all of you and you have been paying 4 attention, that's nice, you have been listening to what we 5 have all been saying and that's unusual. But thank you for 6 your attention.</p> <p>7 I have been a resident of Pembroke Pines for 13 years 8 and I represent Hollybrook. We didn't send the bus load, 9 they sent me. I am the president, I think I speak for all 10 of the people of Hollybrook. We are a community of 1902 11 condominium units with over 3500 politically aware and 12 active people. I have heard the term "community interest." 13 Yes, Hollybrook does have the same community interests as 14 every other group that's spoken here today. And those 15 interests are public safety, affordable and accessible 16 health care, protecting our environment and redeveloping 17 the eastern portion of Pembroke Pines which seems to have 18 gone into a decline when Western Pembroke Pines was 19 developed.</p> <p>20 The issues that affect Hollybrook and Eastern Pembroke 21 Pines affect our entire district and affect the entire 22 community. We are quite happy with our representatives, 23 Wasserman-Schultz, Ryan, Deutsch. We have a pretty good 24 community, we have pretty good representation. And in 25 conclusion, I can only ask you to keep those people in</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p> <p>1 their jobs because they are doing a hell of a job for us. 2 Thank you. 3 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 23. 4 MR. FIORENDINO: Marry Ben Fiorendino, Pembroke Pines, 5 and on behalf of Pembroke Pines I welcome all of you here 6 and I hope that you listen to the words of your chairman 7 who says, fair, fairness. I ask you that, I ask that you 8 try to keep Broward County, the districts in Broward County 9 within Broward County, that's where they belong. 10 Neighboring districts, possible neighboring districts 11 do not have the same problems that we in Broward County 12 have and we want our representatives to represent our 13 problems. And I ask also that you eliminate if possible 14 gerrymandering. We are one county in Broward County, we 15 want to keep it that way. And I want to repeat the words 16 of your chairman, fairness should be your objective and 17 fairness is what I charge you with. Thank you very much. 18 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 24. 19 MS. SHEINER: Good morning Mr. Chairman, Honorable 20 Legislators, my name is Belle Sheiner, I'm president of a 21 political club, I'm also president of a senior condo 22 association. And I appreciate this opportunity to speak to 23 you. This hearing and others to follow are designed to 24 hear input from citizens concerning the redistricting of 25 the state as a result of the 2000 Census. I'm not here to DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p> <p>1 of the committee. My name is Murray Chermak, I am from the 2 City of Weston. Let me start by saying what I won't say, 3 and I won't say that the whole country or the whole world 4 is watching what this reapportionment and redistricting 5 committee is doing today, but I will say that the residents 6 of Broward County and the State of Florida are certainly 7 watching with a great deal of interest what you are about 8 to do. 9 I retired to Florida 23 years ago, moving to Bona 10 Venture, which is now part of that wonderful city, Weston. 11 I have been and still am an activist in many areas, with my 12 main concern always being to try in my own small way to 13 make good things happen for people whenever I can. As a 14 volunteer I have been supported and trusted by many, but 15 there are always those who do not trust one's motives, as 16 you folks in people office are well aware of. Which brings 17 me to the main thrust of my short talk about your 18 redistricting and reapportionment of the State House and 19 Senate and the U.S. House Districts in Broward County. 20 Because of the recent census we know that you have to 21 change boundaries and add districts, which leads to a 22 steady stream of rhetoric from politicians and citizens 23 alike. We are hearing about issues being resolved along 24 party lines, gerrymandering, and creating districts and 25 changing districts to help groups with their own political DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p> <p>1 tell you how to do your job, you have a heroic task before 2 you. I know that you have legal guidelines to follow, but 3 I would like to suggest some people's guidelines. 4 Voting should be made easy and accessible for all 5 Floridians. Districts should be compact and contiguous so 6 that elected representatives are accessible to their 7 constituents. Every vote needs to be counted. Minority 8 areas must be considered. Don't break up political or 9 community subdivisions. 10 Incumbents have served us well in the Legislature, I 11 would like to see their districts preserved. I would 12 respectfully ask when you draw up your guidelines, before 13 you make your final decisions, that we have another 14 opportunity to give you input. 15 In the last several weeks, since the horrendous 16 disaster in New York City on September the 11th, this 17 country has come together as it hasn't since December 7th, 18 1941, with the attack on Pearl Harbor. The lines between 19 the political parties have been smudged, if not erased as 20 everyone has joined hands to work for the good of the 21 country. In this same spirit of cooperation, I ask for 22 fairness and justice for this great state in whatever plan 23 you devise. Thank you. 24 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 25. 25 MR. CHERMAK: Good morning, Chairman Webster, members DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p> <p>1 agenda. But you know I'm idealistic enough to think that 2 since our country will never be the same after that 3 horrific tragedy of the September 11th, perhaps the new 4 politics I have been seeing on T.V. and reading about in 5 the newspapers could be the forerunner of a new America 6 where politicians work together in a nonpartisan way to 7 serve their cities, counties, states, and country in a way 8 that's fair and in a way that will meet the needs of their 9 constituents. 10 I happened to catch the Sun Sentinel editorial 11 yesterday and the last little paragraph is a shocker. Let 12 me read it to you. "Local residents should show up at one 13 or more of these hearings, inform themselves and speak out. 14 Many of the lawmakers on these committees are from South 15 Florida. Tell them to say no to the, "ouch, "crooked 16 politics of reapportionment." That hurts. Let me steal a 17 phrase from that Black Sox baseball scandal that took place 18 in the 1920s, and let me say to the Sun Sentinel and to 19 you, Say it isn't so Joe, say it isn't so. 20 So I ask all of you on this important committee to be 21 impartial and objective in all of your deliberations and 22 decisions. Is that too much to ask for, especially with 23 the new feeling of togetherness permeating our country? I 24 hope not. Thank you. 25 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 26. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p> <p>1 MR. GOODMAN: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and members 2 of the Legislature, my name is Robert Goodman, and my card 3 should say Hollywood, Florida, not Hollywood, California. 4 The person that helped me fill it out I guess thought -- 5 they wanted to move Hollywood already. But anyway, you 6 have an impossible task ahead of you and I know that you 7 won't be able to please everybody, but I think many people 8 have spoken this morning thus far and said what needs to be 9 said in terms of fair and equitable reapportionment. I'm 10 representing the National Association of Social Workers and 11 is a society for social workers in health care, and we are 12 very concerned about increasing minority representation in 13 the State Legislature and in Congress as well. We ask that 14 you again have a fair and equitable system that does very 15 little gerrymandering and is likely to elect candidates who 16 represent Florida's diverse population. We urge you, as a 17 resident of Hollywood, Florida, I urge you to keep 18 Hollywood together in one district as much as possible. 19 Thank you. 20 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 27. 21 MR. JACOBSON: Thank you. Good morning, Mr. Webster. 22 Commission Chair Webster, I am sorry, and distinguished 23 members of the Florida Legislature, and the members of our 24 local delegation. My name is Edwin Jacobsen, I live in the 25 City of Weston, I have the honor to be an elected DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p> <p>1 different community of interest. Let them get what they 2 need, let us have what we need. 3 Most of the people here today are like me, 4 silver-haired. But understand where you are at, you are on 5 a community college campus, these kids outside, not too 6 many of whom are in here, just a few, they are going to be 7 affected by what you do for the next ten years. Be fair 8 for them also, it's very important to be fair. Don't give 9 them the wrong impression of what this unfortunate word 10 "business" is all about. This is not a business, this is 11 about fairness to the people of the State of Florida. 12 I don't know if you are aware of the fact that today 13 is October 1st. I'm sure you know it's October 1st, but 14 you know what October 1st is? The first Monday in October, 15 the Supreme Court of the United States sits today. If you 16 think that gerrymandering for political interests is going 17 to go on much longer in this country, you are wrong. They 18 are going to take it away, let's not do it, let Florida not 19 be the example that the Supreme Court says, enough already, 20 no more, let's be fair to everybody. Thank you. 21 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 28. Did I say 22 28? Number 29. Sorry about that. We will be taking a 23 break after Number 30 speaks for our court reporter. 24 DR. STEPHENS: A very pleasant good morning, 25 Mr. Chairman, honorable committee members, our most DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p> <p>1 commissioner of the City of Weston. I have been involved 2 in municipal government for a very long time. Before I 3 came to Florida I was a municipal judge on Long Island. 4 After I came to Florida I was president of the Buena 5 Ventura President's Council for many years. I also served 6 on the steering committee that created the City of Weston. 7 So I know about Weston a little bit and this is the second 8 time that I'm appearing before this type of organization. 9 The first time I appeared before the county commission 10 redistricting. And I asked them to keep Weston as one, in 11 one commission district. I lost that time. I don't want 12 to lose again. Weston should be in one district. We have 13 a community of interests with other cities around us. I 14 too participated in the I-75 transportation issue, all day 15 long two weeks ago on Saturday. It was wonderful, the City 16 of Davie, the City of Sunrise, to a lesser extent, Miramar 17 Pembroke Pines, we all got together and we knew what we 18 needed for I-75. Well, we also know what we need on a 19 state and federal level too. Employees keep us together. 20 The thought, the unbelievable thought of making us 21 part of Collier County, it makes absolutely no sense. I 22 hope some of you have driven across my neighborhood, 23 Alligator Alley, do you know how far it is? Do you know 24 what a difficult passage it is? Do you know how many 25 people get killed on there every year? They have a DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p> <p>1 honorable hard-working legislators, ladies and gentlemen, 2 I'm Sallie L. Stephens, vice-mayor of the beautiful City of 3 Miramar, the fastest growing in Southwest Broward. I too 4 thank you for the opportunity to speak to you this morning 5 because, as the others have said, I too am a senior citizen 6 who has something to crow about. 7 It is widely acknowledged that there was, in fact, an 8 undercount of the nation's population during the 2000 9 Census. It is also well known that the undercount is 10 generally more widespread among minority populations. 11 Florida has one of the fastest growing minority populations 12 in the nation. A couple of months ago on August 7th, 2001, 13 a census, U.S. Census Monitoring Board released a report by 14 Price, Waterhouse, Coopers' only undercount in the 2000 15 Census, which concludes that more than 200,000 Floridians 16 were not counted in the 2000 Census. Broward County is one 17 of the seven counties hardest hit by this undercount. The 18 other counties most impacted by this census undercount are 19 Palm Beach, Miami-Dade, Orange, Duval, Hillsborough and 20 Pinellas. 21 I have here a summary of the findings of the Price 22 Waterhouse Cooper study as it relates to the undercount in 23 Florida, which was downloaded from the U.S. Census 24 Monitoring Board web site on the internet, and which I will 25 submit for the record. I urge you, Mr. Chair, and DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 54</p> <p>1 committee members, not to ignore the fact that the census 2 undercount was hundreds of thousands of Floridians. 3 You must somehow take the undercount into 4 consideration in drawing the State House, State Senate, and 5 Congressional Districts. If you do not, you are building 6 an inherent packing of what is most likely minority voters 7 since each of the seven counties that were most impacted by 8 the census undercount has a significant minority 9 population. And, make no mistake about it, it is minority 10 residents who are most often undercounted. 11 As an educator, both teacher and administrator for the 12 Broward County School Board for the past 47 years, and I'm 13 not playing hookey today, after 47 years I just retired. 14 Please do not dilute the vote of our minority population by 15 not making adjustments to address the census undercount. 16 Thank you very much. May God bless you, Mr. Chair, and 17 committee, and legislators. May God bless Broward County 18 and God Bless America. Thank you. 19 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 30. 20 MS. MAABOURI-RAD: Good morning. My name is Rozeta 21 Rad, I am the Director of Tourism for the Greater Hollywood 22 Chamber of Commerce Tourism Office. In addition to being a 23 local resident and a co-owner of a small business with my 24 husband in the City of Hollywood, I'm here today in favor 25 of keeping our districts as they are today. As I mentioned DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 56</p> <p>1 community and only someone like Eleanor could represent and 2 understand and relate to. To divide our district and 3 separate the community, it would hurt these common issues 4 and being able to get the representation that we need. I 5 personally work closely on many issues with Eleanor such as 6 beach renourishment. 7 In closing, I would like to ask as a resident and 8 business owner in the community, to have our 9 representatives stay and keep our community as a whole. As 10 a director of tourism and representing, on behalf of the 11 entire travel and tourism committee, I would like to 12 recommend for the suggested increase of 10 percent to be to 13 the northeast direction to include portions of Port 14 Everglade and Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood Airport which are 15 very close to my industry and very important to me. Thank 16 you for the time today and thank you for taking the break 17 after I speak. 18 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Right now we will take 19 a short break for our court reporter. We will be back 20 hopefully in a few minutes. 21 (Brief recess.) 22 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: We are going to start with number 23 31. Number 31, you are recognized. 24 MR. WILLIAMS: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, 25 distinguished members of the redistricting committee and DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 55</p> <p>1 before, I wear many hats in the community and I would like 2 to express a summary of my perception of different roles in 3 the community and how they may affect us. As a Chamber 4 employee, we work very closely with many of our 5 representatives that are here today in working with the 6 business community as well as residential issues in the 7 City of Hollywood. 8 As a resident and a co-owner of a small retail 9 business, it's extremely important that we have 10 representatives that are from our community and within our 11 reach. Being from Hollywood it is easy for us to be able 12 to access them and to have our representatives most 13 understand our issues within the city. 14 As a director of tourism, I am here specifically on 15 behalf of Eleanor Sobel, who is one of our founders of the 16 tourism department and the travel and tourism community. 17 The travel and tourism committee and community which is 18 made of hospitality industry owners and managers in the 19 City of Hollywood work very closely with Eleanor Sobel on 20 many issues. I'm fairly new to the community, but even I 21 am able to understand and see that Hollywood is very unique 22 in many aspects. 23 The incredible amount of redevelopment, especially 24 within the tourism industry and within our CRA districts 25 make for very sensitive issues that are common within the DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 57</p> <p>1 all representatives form the state here today. My name is 2 Donnie Williams, I reside at 2341 North 70th Terrace in 3 Hollywood, Florida. I live in the district represented 4 now, Number 100, by Eleanor Sobel. I'm also the past 5 president for seven years of the Driftwood Civic 6 Association, presently the subcommittee chair of the 7 recreation committee. I've lived in the same home for 20 8 years, same phone number for 20 years, I have also owned a 9 business for over 15 years in the exact same area of 10 Hollywood. The reason for this little bit of an extensive 11 resume of myself is to let you know my involvement in the 12 community is deep, I feel for the people around me and I 13 want to make sure that everything is done for the benefit 14 of all of those who would be represented by you. 15 Neighborhoods defined by Webster as a section or small 16 region that possesses a specific quality to the people 17 living in such a region. I do best in my speeches by using 18 similes and anecdotes, so I am going to give you a small 19 simile unrelated to this. But several years ago, when 20 Broward County was attempting to get a penny sales tax 21 initiated for school and things needed for our schools I 22 attended all of the meetings all over the county. And just 23 to prove the word "neighborhood" once again for Hollywood, 24 I noted personally that more people from Hollywood spoke at 25 those meetings than any other community. I was both proud DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p> <p>1 and impressed and surprised that even out west and north in 2 the areas there was that much going on. But again it 3 proves neighborhood. 4 The thought I'm trying to plant with you is that 5 Hollywood, its neighborhoods, all have a common goal, 6 common needs, common inherencies that make Hollywood 7 special. I'm not just saying that because I live there, it 8 is an amazing phenomenon. It is very important to me that 9 the person that represents me has my neighborhood interest 10 in mind. And for those times that I can't go to speak or 11 be represented, then I know that that person is there. 12 We are extremely fortunate in the Hollywood area, 13 another reason, for two reasons actually. First, that we 14 have Eleanor Sobel, who like me, raised her family, put her 15 children to school there, was a commissioner there, she 16 knows exactly what's going on and she keeps her finger on 17 the pulse constantly for our neighborhood, as do I, and 18 again, the word "neighborhood." 19 The second positive is that the representatives 20 contiguous to Eleanor's areas have exactly the same 21 inherencies. Commissioner Gottlieb for one has all of his 22 roots right in the neighborhood that his area represents. 23 You have an effective legislative partner, we have an 24 effective knowledgeable representative whose district 25 basically and mostly encompasses the neighborhood that I've DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p> <p>1 I would like to think that I have a pretty fair 2 understanding of the political process and how it works. 3 Politics is a funny thing. Each one becomes involved for 4 their own reasons. Most I believe want to do something 5 good and meaningful, but because of the way our system is 6 structured the individuals who are successful at being 7 elected to represent the people usually belong to one of 8 the major political parties. Because of the nature of 9 party politics, there's an understandable tendency to be 10 loyal to one's own party. That's okay when you are dealing 11 with issues such as education, gun control, and the 12 environment; it's not okay when you are making decisions 13 regarding the drawing of districts that you and your 14 colleagues in our Congressional delegation will represent 15 for the next ten years. 16 I would submit to you that the right thing to do is to 17 make decisions you need to make regarding reapportionment, 18 giving careful consideration to the demographics of the 19 various counties and communities of our state, including in 20 particular, the number of registered voters in each of 21 the major parties, not based on your own party loyalty. 22 It may be an occasional source of frustration for a 23 Republican legislator from another part of Florida, not to 24 mention, of course, my friend Senator Sanderson, to notice 25 the overwhelming Democratic registration and representation DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p> <p>1 been talking about. Sounds like a good partnership to me. 2 And more of the similes and anecdotes that I had 3 mentioned to you that I liked so much, Speaker 19 who is 4 from Carriage Hills is a contiguous neighbor of mine in 5 Hollywood. I got up here to say to you that there is an 6 expression that applies in this situation, if it ain't 7 broke, don't fix it. But I will tell you, that of the 65 8 speakers that you have here today, no two will represent a 9 neighborhood more by that same expression. And I swear to 10 you I wrote this speech a week ago and had no idea that he 11 was going to say that phrase, if it ain't broke don't fix 12 it. So I am saying it to you here today again, and you 13 will hear it from two neighbors of the same neighborhood. 14 And I want to thank you for your time and all that you are 15 doing for us. 16 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 32. Number 33. 17 MR. BROMBERG: Mr. Chairman, committee members, ladies 18 and gentlemen, I have been an active participant in our 19 community for more than 30 years. I have had the privilege 20 of serving at various times as president of the Homeowner's 21 Association, as an elected member of the Broward County 22 School Board and for more than 20 years as an elected 23 member of the Broward County Democratic Executive 24 Committee, and I currently serve as a member of the Broward 25 County Charter Schools Task Force. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 61</p> <p>1 of our delegation. I simply ask you to respect that 2 representation as a result of the voter registration rules 3 here and to resist the temptation to redraw districts that 4 would disregard the rights and wishes of a vast majority of 5 our voters who just happen to be registered Democrats, as 6 reflected in the fact that over 200,000 more Broward County 7 registered voters cast their vote for the Democratic 8 candidate for President in the last election than for the 9 Republican candidate. 10 Just as our national political leaders must set 11 partisan politics aside right now for different reasons, so 12 should you avoid the temptation to inject your own 13 political leanings into the redrawing of districts. I urge 14 you to leave the Legislative and Congressional Districts in 15 Broward County essentially unchanged, particularly as it 16 pertains to the party affiliation of the registered voters 17 in those districts. Thank you. 18 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 34. Number 35. 19 MR. STIEB: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and honored 20 members of this delegation, my name is Alan Stieb and I 21 reside on the Barrier Island in the City of Hollywood and 22 represent the Alliance of Hollywood Beach Communities, a 23 civic association on the Barrier Island. 24 Our concerns for redistricting are simple, please 25 preserve the City of Hollywood as a contained, contiguous DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 62</p> <p>1 political subdivision. Our special concern is that the 2 Hollywood Barrier Island remain intact and as a part of the 3 City of Hollywood. The Barrier Island and the City of 4 Hollywood have unique historical connections which can be 5 traced to the city's founder, Joseph Young, who in the 6 early 20s had a vision of a plan of a seaside community. 7 As this seaside community grew and matured, preservation of 8 its cultural institutions, architecture, and environment as 9 well as tourism and the supporting city infrastructure have 10 become common shared interests.</p> <p>11 In an effort to invigorate Joe Young's vision, 12 Hollywood just completed a city-wide master plan that was 13 citizen driven. This enormous plan took over 18 months to 14 complete and many, many thousands of hours were volunteered 15 by more than 1,000 of its residents. Hollywood's master 16 planing effort has refreshed our sense of place and updated 17 and defined our community interests and goals. The support 18 of its elected officials have made this possible. The 19 implementation of this master plan requires elected city 20 officials who are familiar with its city, its history, and 21 the wishes of its citizens.</p> <p>22 The Alliance of Hollywood Beach Communities asks you 23 to keep these considerations in mind during your thoughtful 24 deliberations. Thank you.</p> <p>25 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Number 36. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 64</p> <p>1 their health and our local hospitals. There are valid 2 concerns that I have personally seen Representative Sobel 3 address with our seniors, and I can recognize their 4 affinity for her. She has a large nonpartisan following, 5 particularly among the seniors of our community, because 6 she understands their concerns and values their opinions.</p> <p>7 Much progress has been made to put Hollywood on the 8 map. Downtown is something to be proud of and 9 Representative Sobel has given her talent, her time, and 10 her voice to help in making this happen. Without proper 11 representation and one voice, the beaches as well as the 12 revitalization of disadvantaged areas of our town would be 13 threatened. I implore you not to change the neighborhoods 14 that are represented by Representative Sobel.</p> <p>15 Her representation of our district has resulted in 16 bringing Hollywood up to its potential. Changing that 17 would injure and not help Hollywood continue on its path of 18 continuous improvement. We the citizens and taxpayers of 19 Hollywood need to stay intact with one voice. Thank you 20 very much.</p> <p>21 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 37.</p> <p>22 MS. ROSEN: For the vertically challenged, good 23 morning Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. My name 24 is Lila Rosen. I would like to emphasize the principle of 25 fairness, not political agenda in redistricting. I firmly DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 63</p> <p>1 MS. LUSZER: Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of 2 the House Redistricting Committee. My name is Maureen 3 Luszer and I am the executive director of North Park, which 4 is the senior living residence, part of the Hollywood 5 neighboring community. It is my pleasure and honor to 6 appear before you today to speak on a subject I find of 7 great importance, continuing to have our representatives 8 continue to represent the fine citizens of District 100, 9 Hollywood and Hallandale Beach. The residents of Hollywood 10 share the same common ground and common community of 11 interest.</p> <p>12 The seniors of this community are no exception. The 13 seniors of Hollywood are not unlike the rest of us, they 14 are uncomfortable with change, even some change that is 15 beneficial. However, this time change would not benefit 16 the people of Hollywood nor those residents of North Park, 17 least of all, the seniors of this community. Our 18 Representatives understand the challenges, needs, and 19 concerns that face seniors. A primary concern is their 20 safety. This includes but is not limited to public 21 transportation and police protection. Eleanor Sobel 22 understands these concerns and addresses them by keeping 23 our neighborhoods intact and maintaining unity and 24 strength.</p> <p>25 Another valid concern of our senior population is DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 65</p> <p>1 believe you must consider what is best for each community 2 according to the community needs. I live in a community in 3 a condominium in a district with many condominiums in 4 Pembroke Pines, which according to the New York Times was 5 the third largest growing city in the United States.</p> <p>6 Many of these condominiums have seniors, and the 7 issues and concerns for quality of life are related to 8 access by public transportation for shopping, 9 entertainment, health facilities, et cetera, in order that 10 people can maintain ongoing independence. The burgeoning 11 growth of our community also underlies communities' needs 12 in regard to roads and schools.</p> <p>13 We have been fortunate in that our district has been 14 effectively represented in Tallahassee and Washington, 15 D.C., and our representatives understand our needs. We 16 have certainly benefited. I would ask in closing that you 17 not put self-serving partisan politics above the interests 18 of the people in the community and the district. Thank you 19 for your time.</p> <p>20 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 38.</p> <p>21 MS. DURST: Good morning. My name is Marcia Durst and 22 I live in Pembroke Pines. Thank you for giving me the 23 opportunity to speak to you today. Ken Gottlieb and Debbie 24 Wasserman-Schultz represent me. I live in a condo and they 25 understand and address the issues we have. Rarely does one DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 66</p> <p>1 get someone like Ken and Debbie that we can all agree are 2 interested in the people. I and others like myself would 3 like them to continue in their capacity. In closing I 4 would like to add that Ken has the greatest neckties I have 5 ever seen.</p> <p>6 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Number 39.</p> <p>7 MS. RALSTON: I'm vertically challenged as well. Good 8 morning, Mr. Chairman and distinguished committee members. 9 It's inconceivable to me that I'm asked to comment on an 10 extremely important project without knowing what is being 11 proposed. Why are there no maps outlining various 12 configurations as to what the districts might be? If the 13 controlling party truly wanted citizen input they would 14 provide us with the necessary tools to make informed and 15 intelligent recommendations, i.e., the map, as it is and 16 what it may become.</p> <p>17 To correspond to the map question is the criteria by 18 which the new districts will be decided. I have seen 19 nothing to indicate there is such a list. To make sure 20 that each citizen has easy access to his or her 21 representative, the district should be compact and have 22 similar needs and concerns. After working so many 23 campaigns, including Districts 90, 100, and 101, which 24 these communities have specific interests within each 25 district, I feel the voters sometimes don't feel they are</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 68</p> <p>1 or voter registration. These groups, in quotes, are all 2 Americans, each having one vote, one that is supposed to 3 count.</p> <p>4 Hopefully we learned something positive from the 2000 5 presidential election. Instead of thinking of us as one 6 type or another, let us think of us all as Americans first 7 and then our individual identities. Since I'm only allowed 8 four minutes to speak, the above issues are most important 9 to me. I am sure there are plenty of ideas out there on 10 how to reconfigure the districts and hopefully many will be 11 seriously considered by the elected body in charge of 12 redistricting.</p> <p>13 I sometimes think government, from local to federal, 14 have forgotten the most important words written in American 15 history, government is of the people, by the people, and 16 for the people to form a more perfect union. To truly have 17 this occur the public must again have the opportunity to 18 voice their opinions on redistricting once the criteria and 19 the map has been done to make sure that their concerns, 20 ideas and issues are part of the process, that it reflects 21 the will of the people. Thank you.</p> <p>22 And on a side note, the newspaper in its article today 23 on the redistricting asked, "Are you listening?" So please 24 listen.</p> <p>25 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 40.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 67</p> <p>1 connected to their elected officials if you move them 2 around. I can personally call Eleanor or Kenny, I feel on 3 a first-name basis with them. I know Steve very well. And 4 I just feel that I like that personal touch. Even though 5 we may not agree at all times, we certainly, I have that 6 opportunity, their offices are very easy for me to get to.</p> <p>7 So I please don't want those districts changed.</p> <p>8 Second on my list is continuity of representation. Voters 9 elected their present reps because they most closely 10 believe what the voter believes. I do not want to lose the 11 representatives I have now. I'm forced to lose them with 12 term limits, which I'm strenuously opposed to. It is 13 another way to erode my voting right. So I certainly do 14 not want to lose them to partisan politics.</p> <p>15 Thirdly, I would consider keeping the wholeness of the 16 community within a district as much as possible. I know 17 one community cannot each have its own representative and 18 some are too large to have just one, but when considering 19 the district, the commonalities of communities should be a 20 strong consideration.</p> <p>21 Lastly, and least important to me, is the actual 22 number of people represented. Although districts should be 23 as equal in numbers as possible, I don't think that any 24 community should suffer a breakup because of it. What I 25 don't think should be criteria is race, religion, wealth,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 69</p> <p>1 MR. SACHOROW: Good morning, I'm not vertically 2 challenged so you have to excuse me. My name is Barry 3 Sachorow, I am from Hollywood. I come with a whole group 4 of competing interests. Among which are the Green Party, 5 young people of a variety of economic and whatnot, and a 6 counter-culture who believes that they were let down over 7 the past 12 to 24 months. Much of which is blamed on the 8 Republicans.</p> <p>9 I would like to echo what the first speaker, Mitch 10 Ceaser talked about, which is a call for putting 11 gerrymandering and the feeling of having districts imposed 12 upon citizens assigned and remind you that you are in the 13 largest Democratic county in Florida. What is done will be 14 blamed, good or bad, on the Republicans. If it's not true, 15 that's great. If it's all the Democrats doing it, that's 16 great. But the reality is that it is a feeling that this 17 year what will go on with redistricting is the same kind of 18 a thing that went on last year with automatic restoration 19 of civil rights, where one of the members of the committee 20 up here said, there is no way that will get through the 21 House, that will just make more Democrats.</p> <p>22 We are all entitled to our vote, and redistricting is 23 the promise, is the guarantee of our representation, 24 especially among those people who are of the independent 25 parties, of the Green Party, of the nonaffiliated. And in</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 70</p> <p>1 this county 20 percent are independent.</p> <p>2 This redistricting act, this act of the Republicans</p> <p>3 will be how we judge you, will be how we judge the</p> <p>4 Legislature for 2002. Please don't let us down. Every day</p> <p>5 I talk to young people, every day I give out voter</p> <p>6 registration forms. How do I face those people if I can't</p> <p>7 say to them that the process by which the division of those</p> <p>8 votes is made isn't fair?</p> <p>9 I know most of the people up here, at least in the</p> <p>10 front row, I trust almost all of you. I look forward to a</p> <p>11 very successful, very short session where fairness is the</p> <p>12 rule. Because in these past few weeks we have seen what</p> <p>13 divisiveness can bring us. I thank you for the time.</p> <p>14 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 41.</p> <p>15 MR. HECHT: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and honored</p> <p>16 members of the committee. My name is Joseph Hecht, I</p> <p>17 reside at 12901 Southwest 15th Court in Pembroke Pines.</p> <p>18 I'm certain that after all of these hearings many of our</p> <p>19 members, if they aren't thick-skinned, they will be now</p> <p>20 afterwards. You know, the French author, Aime Ozilleron</p> <p>21 (phonetic), message onjuahughes (French spoken) would be</p> <p>22 very much in vogue today. But who or what would be unwise</p> <p>23 at this juncture to accuse anybody, especially the</p> <p>24 legislators for imprudent decisions governing</p> <p>25 reapportionment and redistricting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 72</p> <p>1 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 42.</p> <p>2 MS. GREEN: Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of</p> <p>3 the committee, and other members of the House and Senate.</p> <p>4 My name is Susan Green, hi again, and I live in the Silver</p> <p>5 Lakes community of Western Pembroke Pines. I have lived in</p> <p>6 Pembroke Pines since 1992, yes, 1992 before Hurricane</p> <p>7 Andrew. My husband and I moved to Western Pembroke Pines</p> <p>8 to escape Dade County and the overcrowded conditions there.</p> <p>9 We were hoping to raise a family in an uncongested area,</p> <p>10 relatively uncrowded community. We all know what has</p> <p>11 happened to Southwest Broward since that time, and to say</p> <p>12 that it is overcrowded is a gross understatement.</p> <p>13 I also wanted to tell you that I was privileged to</p> <p>14 serve as a legislative aid in the Florida Legislature many</p> <p>15 years ago and understand the legislative process and the</p> <p>16 importance of these hearings. Having said that, I want to</p> <p>17 express my support for keeping our legislators, both House</p> <p>18 and Senate, in our community. Southwest Broward has many</p> <p>19 unique attributes, as do other regions. It would be a</p> <p>20 mistake, however, to try and combine high-growth areas such</p> <p>21 as mine, for example, with more rural communities in other</p> <p>22 counties. Even though they may be adjacent to each other,</p> <p>23 we all know the issues are quite different.</p> <p>24 As a former legislative aide, I know how difficult it</p> <p>25 is for a legislator to respond to and accommodate to the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 71</p> <p>1 Now, with pinpoint accuracy we can reach the lunar</p> <p>2 surface in a moment, we can send the space module into</p> <p>3 orbit at a very precise time and look into the recesses of</p> <p>4 the human mind with an MRI. But with the modern technology</p> <p>5 at our disposal today, why can't we be more specific and</p> <p>6 have a positive count of the human souls of this state.</p> <p>7 Who lies at fault?</p> <p>8 A decade of decisions rooted in a very short time.</p> <p>9 Our governing party has ruled affirmatively that the count</p> <p>10 stands in the status quo. Drawing lines for political or</p> <p>11 personal aggrandisement would be a sham, eroding the very</p> <p>12 guiding principles of redistricting and reapportionment.</p> <p>13 As embodied in our Florida Constitution, if we read Article</p> <p>14 III, Section 16, contiguous, compactness, and communities</p> <p>15 of interest should be adhered to at all times.</p> <p>16 Will you, in all fairness, abide by your cohesive</p> <p>17 testimony, making certain that all common concerns of</p> <p>18 interest, of culture, language, education, health care,</p> <p>19 transportation, et cetera, be encompassed in the proper</p> <p>20 judgment before drawing your final lines. We must retain</p> <p>21 those representatives who are fully cognizant of our county</p> <p>22 awareness plus our local districts on all levels.</p> <p>23 Let's not be one hand of power, gerrymander the</p> <p>24 districts and communities for political resolve, but have</p> <p>25 fairness and justice prevail at all times. Thank you.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 73</p> <p>1 needs of his or her district's constituents when the</p> <p>2 concerns are relatively similar. It would be most</p> <p>3 difficult, if not impossible, for a legislator to properly</p> <p>4 handle a district in which the core issues are so</p> <p>5 drastically difficult.</p> <p>6 The reality is that some part of the district will get</p> <p>7 the short end of a legislator's attention. Typically the</p> <p>8 community where the legislator is not from will receive the</p> <p>9 least attention. Why? Because representatives, by their</p> <p>10 very definition, are in place to represent their</p> <p>11 communities and their constituents. It is very difficult</p> <p>12 for a legislator from Broward County to understand,</p> <p>13 empathize and advocate on behalf of a constituent in</p> <p>14 Collier County or other counties whose needs, concerns, and</p> <p>15 priorities are so different from their own.</p> <p>16 I know it's been done before, but you must ask</p> <p>17 yourself, with what degree of success? Let's learn from</p> <p>18 the mistakes of the past and draw districts that make</p> <p>19 common sense. It is quite simply the purpose and the</p> <p>20 objective of our reapportionment process, that is, to</p> <p>21 ensure fair, objective representation of our citizens.</p> <p>22 Thank you.</p> <p>23 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 43.</p> <p>24 MR. HIRSH: Good morning, Mr. Chair and honored</p> <p>25 members of the committee me, and some of my friends up</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 74</p> <p>1 there from the legislative area. My name is Murray Mirsh, 2 I live in Century Village, Pembroke Pines. Florida has 3 just come through a tumultuous presidential election 4 period, as you all will remember. THE United States has 5 just suffered a tumultuous and devastating terrorist attack 6 on September the 11th. We have no idea of what yet may 7 come. 8 That said, let's get to the topic at hand, 9 redistricting. You, our Florida legislators, are now 10 engaged in the process of redistricting the entire State of 11 Florida, not just Broward County. You can do so in ways 12 that will further polarize and divide us politically or you 13 can show true statesmanship and patriotism by doing what is 14 truly fair and not for revenge over past political 15 decisions made by the previous Legislatures, or for your 16 own political gain of one party over the other. 17 In the days, the months, the years ahead, this country 18 must stand up and show the world what real democracy is. 19 We must stop party bickering in order to accomplish what 20 must be done to defeat terrorism and to advance the many 21 needs of the people of this great state. We, those of us 22 who live in Century Village and the other four condominiums 23 in the locality are senior citizens. Many of us, like 24 myself, are World War II veterans, many of us are the 25 widows of the veterans. We have been represented by people DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 76</p> <p>1 district, Mandy Dawson, Chris Smith are my Representative, 2 Senator, and Congressman, and I would ask you to leave that 3 district as is. It is a grass roots, person-to-person, 4 very, very homestyle that people can understand. I have 5 been a product for the last 30 years of star bursting in 6 the school system and that is the reason Citizens Concerned 7 about our Children was organized, to stop the star bursting 8 of our children and the effects of a splitting community. 9 And I would not like to be a part of a split district. 10 Please do not dilute our interests or our power or our 11 involvement. We would also like to see some enhancement. 12 We can always stand for some additional districts. Thank 13 you very much. 14 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Number 45. Number 46. 15 MS. PRUCE: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and ladies and 16 gentlemen of the panel. My name is Rosa Pruce, I'm a 17 resident of Century Village of Pembroke Pines in District 18 32. I am president of the Concerned Villages Community 19 Organization, better known as CVCO, and affiliated with We 20 the People News, our newspaper. I know you have a 21 difficult task before you because of the tremendous growth 22 in Florida, but I'm appealing to you, all of you, please 23 consider the senior citizen enclaves and do not break us up 24 into segments with no voice to protect our needs and 25 rights. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 75</p> <p>1 who know us, who know our needs, our interests, they have 2 been working with us and helping us. It will be 3 devastating to us as a senior group, as a people who won 4 World War II, to be devastated again by having our 5 districts torn apart in some silly and gerrymandered 6 fashion. We urge you to please keep us in mind when you 7 redistrict. We are the people, we want you to do this so 8 that there's no political gain. 9 And I must take a second of personal privilege. I 10 object to the fact -- I have noticed that some of the staff 11 are wearing Republican insignia and I don't think that it 12 is quite proper in a situation like this to show 13 partisanship. I would hope that you would ask them to 14 remove it. Thank you. 15 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 44. 16 MS. PRICE: Good morning, Ernestine Price, 17 representative of Rainbow Push. My name is Ernestine 18 Price, representing Rainbow Push and Citizens Concerned 19 about our Children here in Broward County. I would like to 20 ask you to please -- 21 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Can I interrupt you? Could you 22 tell me your number on your -- 23 MS. PRICE: Forty-four. 24 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Okay. 25 MS. PRICE: I would ask you to -- Alcee Hastings' DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 77</p> <p>1 Remember, some day you may be in our shoes, so please 2 think before you cut us up. And please keep us all in one 3 Senate District, do not divide us, thank you. 4 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 47. 5 MR. BOBER: Good morning, my name is Peter Bober and I 6 am a city commissioner from the City of Hollywood. I'm 7 here today to address some of the practical aspects of the 8 reapportionment process. When I was a student at the 9 University of Pennsylvania Law School I was privileged to 10 study under perhaps this nation's most preeminent scholar 11 on redistricting and reapportionment issues, Professor 12 Lannie Gwaneer (phonetic). And under Professor Gwaneer's 13 leadership I was able to recognize first hand how the 14 seemingly Democratic process of reapportionment has been 15 used time and time again to deny groups with a common 16 interest their seat at the table of democracy. 17 While I have no doubt that the legislators and 18 legislators in this room will endeavor to create a fair, 19 balanced methodology for the creation of district lines, 20 I'm here today to ask you to think about reapportionment as 21 a Constitutional process with a fundamental flaw. That 22 flaw is the inherent voter confusion that is created 23 fundamentally by changing district boundary lines, and 24 thereby moving unassuming citizens out of legislative 25 districts to which they have only recently become DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 78</p> <p>1 familiarized and acclimated.</p> <p>2 In other words, while the purpose of reapportionment</p> <p>3 is intrinsically benevolent, the effect or reapportionment</p> <p>4 is to create a situation where scores of voters are</p> <p>5 suddenly, overnight, they do not know where they are, they</p> <p>6 do not know where they vote, and they do not know who their</p> <p>7 elected representatives will be. This flaw of voter</p> <p>8 confusion is easily illustrated to any elected official who</p> <p>9 has annually and suddenly found out that the voter precinct</p> <p>10 locations within their districts have suddenly changed</p> <p>11 ostensibly; this does not violate Democratic principles</p> <p>12 since the voters can still vote, just in a different place.</p> <p>13 But we know when registered voters get confused they</p> <p>14 often times don't vote; thereby, encroaching on the</p> <p>15 constitutional principle of equitable results. In the</p> <p>16 reapportionment context this can be remedied by preserving</p> <p>17 the constituent basis of existing legislative districts to</p> <p>18 the greatest extent possible, by refusing to be guided by</p> <p>19 political preferences. Districts should ideally be drawn</p> <p>20 as compact, geometric shapes, allowing the largest number</p> <p>21 of people within a district to remain in that district,</p> <p>22 particularly those with a commonality of interest. In this</p> <p>23 way voters can know that their elected representatives live</p> <p>24 and work among them, possibly even being a neighbor.</p> <p>25 Voters don't want their representative changed midstream,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 80</p> <p>1 on it and still moving forward. Dania Beach you might say</p> <p>2 have many common interests, health care, education, and, of</p> <p>3 course, economic growth. We are a bedroom community. We</p> <p>4 do not have the industry or manufacturers and so forth, so</p> <p>5 most of the people leave that community, go out and work</p> <p>6 elsewhere, come back and lie down.</p> <p>7 We are about 26,000 residents at this time. And we,</p> <p>8 at this time, we have grown. We know that we have a</p> <p>9 Congressman Clay Shaw, Congressman Alcee Hastings,</p> <p>10 Representative Ryan and Senator Geller. Right now, the</p> <p>11 community is dichotomized to that extent and we want to</p> <p>12 continue to keep it to that extent.</p> <p>13 One of the reasons being is that when I call up</p> <p>14 Representative Ryan, I can be able to get him, he is</p> <p>15 accessible. When I talk to Congressman Shaw, I can talk to</p> <p>16 someone that is there, I can call Steve Geller and talk to</p> <p>17 him, but if you divide the city, or dichotomize that city,</p> <p>18 that of course means now we have got to serve two masters.</p> <p>19 And you know what that good book says, that when you serve</p> <p>20 two masters, you leave one and cleave to the other. And we</p> <p>21 don't want to divide our city where it is going to start</p> <p>22 doing those things.</p> <p>23 Representative Ryan has been an advocate for the needs</p> <p>24 of the community. I remember that city, I grew up there,</p> <p>25 and we have no health here. But as I became appointed to</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 79</p> <p>1 and when they have to telephone them, they don't want it to</p> <p>2 be a long distance telephone call.</p> <p>3 In conclusion, I ask you to do your best with an</p> <p>4 inherently difficult task. Please just be aware that when</p> <p>5 people get used to living in a certain place, including a</p> <p>6 Legislative or Congressional District, they begin to like</p> <p>7 it there and they want to stay. So I ask you, to the</p> <p>8 greatest extent possible, please let them. Thank you.</p> <p>9 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 48.</p> <p>10 MR. JONES: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, ladies and</p> <p>11 gentlemen, it is such a pleasure to see you all here and to</p> <p>12 be here. My name is Albert Jones, I have lived in the City</p> <p>13 of Dania Beach all of my life, a Florida native. Also a</p> <p>14 former city commissioner of the City of Dania Beach, also</p> <p>15 sit on the chair for the Broward County School Board</p> <p>16 Diversity Committee, and I'm also a vice-chair of the South</p> <p>17 Broward Hospital District. And I come to you this morning</p> <p>18 just to talk a little bit about the redistricting and</p> <p>19 reapportionment. And I would just like to say that, yes, I</p> <p>20 do live in the City of Dania Beach, the oldest city, we</p> <p>21 sort of fathered or mothered most of these cities and we</p> <p>22 want to continue to stay intact.</p> <p>23 In recent years we have had some barriers,</p> <p>24 Mr. Chairman, but we certainly have overcome them. And we</p> <p>25 still have a bit of a way to go, but we are still working</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 81</p> <p>1 the South Broward Hospital Commission, I pushed that issue.</p> <p>2 I want to let you know that Representative Ryan stood on</p> <p>3 his nickel. I mean, he went out forward and brought back</p> <p>4 some dollars into that community, along with others up</p> <p>5 there that have done the same. I just want to say that</p> <p>6 it's very hard to link one city to another where the common</p> <p>7 fabric and thread are departed, or they are severed.</p> <p>8 We must keep it together. Dania would lose some of</p> <p>9 its clout, and its clout I mean, its punch, in order to</p> <p>10 make the outcome of elections. We need to keep our clout</p> <p>11 and we need to keep our position. We need to be able to</p> <p>12 determine some of the outcomes of the elections that are</p> <p>13 going to come forth.</p> <p>14 Lastly, I would just like to say to you, let's keep</p> <p>15 our entire city within the boundaries of one State House</p> <p>16 District. I want to say in closing that, legislators, it</p> <p>17 is not about partisanship, but about partnership. It is</p> <p>18 not about the R or the D, as others have come up and said,</p> <p>19 but it's about equality. And we are saying this, that we</p> <p>20 want you to represent us and do what's fair and what's</p> <p>21 just. And not only that, dealing with Spinoza, it says</p> <p>22 that you cannot know how to go into the future unless you</p> <p>23 remember the past, and we are saying that, you do the right</p> <p>24 thing.</p> <p>25 So I say it is a pleasure to be here before you and we</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 82</p> <p>1 hope that you will continue to represent us as one, the 2 City of Dania Beach. Thank you. 3 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 49. 4 MR. SPARKS: My name is James Sparks. I would like to 5 say good afternoon and thank you for coming. I am a member 6 of Christian Black Men of Destiny, that is a group, 7 unincorporated, in worship in Carver Ranches. One of our 8 goals is to take control of our destiny. Just a little 9 kind of story. We have been unincorporated Carver Ranches. 10 We put together a plan to become annexed, and I think it 11 was better than any plan in, we had representatives that 12 was involved in it, we had local officials that was 13 involved in it, and here we stand and we are not even on 14 the list right now to be incorporated. 15 Now, some of you guys worked real hard for us, and I 16 thank you for it, and some of you guys worked real hard 17 against us, and I am going to have to thank you for that 18 because that's going to make me work harder too. One of 19 the things that I have to say is that I hear people keep 20 talking about fairness, I hear people continually talk 21 about being for the people. Well, in this community, there 22 was 15,000 that was for this, and there was less than 2,000 23 against it. The 2,000 won, so you wasn't for me. So now I 24 say "you," because you are the guys that voted and I can't 25 just come up here and pick any one of you out. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 84</p> <p>1 my black community they either went right or left, it's 2 according to what they needed. I don't want you guys to do 3 that, I want you guys -- if you say you are going to be 4 fair to me, be fair to me. You have got to be fair to 5 everybody else, I'm not looking for anything special. But 6 listen, I am a simple guy, I really don't know very much 7 about computers, but I can sit and look at a line and know 8 when you went out purposely to do something intentionally, 9 gerryrigging and all of that kind of stuff, that stuff is 10 real. 11 My community, we live in a community with nothing but 12 houses because everybody drew lines around us and took 13 every commercial piece of property out of my community. I 14 mean, I have got a problem with that. So, I am going to be 15 honest again, I thank everybody, I am not upset with 16 nobody, but when it comes to vote, I am going to be looking 17 at people who voted and helped on my issues. You can't 18 help on every issue I have, but I can't lose every time, 19 and I have lost every time. I want to thank you and God 20 bless. 21 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 50. 22 MR. SIEGER: Good morning Senator Webster and 23 legislators, and thank you for allowing me to address you. 24 I met Senator Webster for the first time this morning and 25 he assured me that there would be fairness and I take him DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 83</p> <p>1 So when you tell me, here we are now trying to make a 2 decision and we are people putting input in it, don't tell 3 me that you are going to do it because we the people are 4 speaking. You, you are not representing me when 15,000 5 lost against 2, something is wrong. You can't tell me that 6 you are represented. 7 So I am going to be honest, I'm standing here with 8 very little faith in what's going on, but I am going to put 9 it on record that I want you to know that I'm watching, 10 that this is part of the system, everything that I ever 11 fight for, every time I got in a fight I found out that I 12 had to do it within the system, other than that I got in 13 trouble. Because I am one of those people, I used to be 14 real hot-tempered and that got me in a lot of trouble. So 15 now I try to work within the system. 16 So I'm putting it on record that, you know, you say 17 you are for me, so I want you to listen. I have heard 18 everybody come up here, and everybody that come up here, 19 they have asked for fair, they have asked to be equal. I 20 mean, I have seen -- I worked in Broward County School 21 Board, my group, CCC, we fought the school system just to 22 let my kid go to a magnet program which was in her own 23 school and the School Board said no? Okay, I helped redraw 24 lines in districts in the School Board, I watched these 25 people take a pin and go straight up and when they got to DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 85</p> <p>1 at his word and I believe that he will be fair. 2 I am a veteran of World War II. What did we fight for 3 and die for in World War II? The right to have 4 representation, to keep America free and equal so that I 5 can vote for Debbie Wasserman-Schultz as my legislator, as 6 Senator, so I can vote for Ken Gottlieb for my 7 representative, so that I can vote for Peter Deutsch for my 8 Congressman, that gives me my right to vote. And there is 9 a song that says, Coming to America, the Spanish-American 10 people, why are they coming to America? Because they are 11 free. They can bring up their families and children here 12 and they have the right to vote here, which they don't have 13 in other places. 14 Why are the Haitians coming to America? Because they 15 are free here. They have a right to vote here, to have 16 their representatives for them. And for the 17 representatives here that know me and I know them, and we 18 have been more than friends, I admire them, I have respect 19 for them, and I'm sure, Senator Webster, your constituents 20 admire you and respect you and we think that you are going 21 to do the right thing for Broward County and keep Broward 22 County, Broward County. Thank you. 23 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 51. 24 MS. NEWMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, honorable 25 committee. Hello, my name is Deana Newman, I live in Dania DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 86</p> <p>1 Beach, I graduated from Chaminade-Madonna and I am 2 currently attending BCC. I had the amazing opportunity 3 this past summer to intern for Representative Eleanor Sobel 4 in District 100 to keep the district together. 5 Representative Sobel cares and reaches out to her 6 constituents. She understands their wants and their needs. 7 She is involved with colleges and furthering public 8 education. 9 Representative Sobel understands teachers and their 10 needs also. She's helping teachers get breaks on homes. 11 In this, good teachers will be encouraged to stay in our 12 area. By keeping good teachers in our area, our children 13 will benefit so our tomorrow will be better. 14 Representative Sobel has an open-door policy, as many 15 of her colleagues do. If a constituent feels the need to 16 come in and talk over a problem, she's willing to listen, 17 investigate, and do whatever she can to help. Obviously 18 the size of District 100 as it is now really allows 19 Congresswoman Sobel to get involved personally with her 20 people. I think it is evident how much Representative 21 Sobel is loved by her constituents. 22 As a resident of South Florida and someone who knows 23 Congresswoman Sobel, I believe for the good of the people 24 of District 100, we should keep the district as it 25 currently is. Thank you for your time and God bless. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 88</p> <p>1 unique problems and deserves to have those lines drawn 2 carefully and fairly to respect our concerns. Thank you 3 very much. 4 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 53. 5 MS. BOYD: Good morning, I am really down here. My 6 name is Mary Boyd and I'm vice-president of United 7 Neighbors of East Miramar. I have been a resident of East 8 Miramar for 32 years now. Everyone here this morning, of 9 course, has been expressing their concerns for Broward 10 County, for their legislative districts. Everyone here is 11 very fearful that the integrity of their fair 12 representation is going to be diluted. That is the bottom 13 line, nobody wants representation that is not what their 14 just due is because the new district would be too diverse, 15 their legislator would be inaccessible. That's what we 16 want, we want our legislators to be accessible, we want our 17 needs to be common. 18 We know that redistricting is necessary. We know that 19 the population growth and shift makes it necessary. As 20 someone who said earlier, if it ain't broke, don't fix it. 21 Keep our lines as similar to what they are now as they can 22 be, keep our representatives accessible to us and cognizant 23 of the needs in his or her district. Don't look to serve 24 self-interests or political interests, listen to what 25 everybody has said here this morning. Almost everybody has DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 87</p> <p>1 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 52. 2 MS. SMITH: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Honored 3 Legislators, you are most patient, I can't believe you are 4 still smiling up there. My name is Carol Smith and I live 5 in Coral Springs. Thank you for -- yeah, a change, someone 6 from the other end of the county. Thank you for allowing 7 citizen participation in this process. It's so important 8 that district lines be drawn fairly. And I know that those 9 lines will change, population has changed, so I would like 10 to suggest several criteria that I would encourage you to 11 follow in addition to equal population and being 12 contiguous. 13 Districts should be as compact as possible with no 14 jagged, scwiggely lines, they should respect county and 15 municipal boundaries as much as possible, and I think you 16 have heard that over and over again today. They shouldn't 17 dilute the voting strength of groups based on race, 18 religion, or national origin. And the district lines 19 should not be drawn to favor or disfavor any political 20 party or any incumbent. 21 I would also request that there be an opportunity to 22 comment on the maps you draw before the Legislature gives 23 final approval. A couple of weeks would not be too much to 24 ask to allow us to look over those maps and make those 25 comments. Citizen input is vital. South Florida has DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 89</p> <p>1 said the same thing. We know that you will do the fair 2 thing. Thank you. 3 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 54. Number 55. 4 MS. GREEN: Okay. You are going to have to pay 5 attention, I have a question. Who is the representative 6 from District 102? Are they here? What? It's Dade County 7 and it's also Collier County, and I wanted to express my 8 sympathy for the one person who has to meet in Hialeah 9 Gardens and represent them, but also Naples and represent 10 them. 11 And also let Representative Rich know that I think I 12 have found somebody that has a worse district than you. 13 When you ask these two people how the gators are doing, it 14 is a whole different meaning than it is for the rest of the 15 State of Florida. So, my name is Linda Green and I'm from 16 Davie, Florida. I have two children who are in the public 17 education system in Broward County and I'm very active in 18 the education issues in our county. 19 When I asked what do I want from my representatives, 20 it's commitment to the people and knowledge of the issues. 21 And I know that a lot of people are talking to you today 22 about keeping communities together, keeping them within the 23 same county, but I just wanted to speak specifically to 24 that through one example, to kind of give a concrete way to 25 show you what it is we are talking about when we say why we DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 90</p> <p>1 want the counties together.</p> <p>2 The examples I want to use is the overcrowding of</p> <p>3 Broward County. As you have heard earlier today, there's</p> <p>4 not enough schools and the districts are building them at a</p> <p>5 striding pace; however, what the district is saying now is</p> <p>6 that in three years we will run out of money and we still</p> <p>7 won't have all of the schools that we need. In three years</p> <p>8 they will have borrowed as much as legally allowed, so we</p> <p>9 will be tapped out for anymore schools and we will have to</p> <p>10 look for other funding sources, because although we are</p> <p>11 going to be capped out with the money, the children will</p> <p>12 still be moving to this county and we will need the</p> <p>13 schools.</p> <p>14 So I want my representatives to know the issue, and</p> <p>15 although I would never wish on any child that the first day</p> <p>16 of school they show up and there's not a seat for them or</p> <p>17 there's not a portable to put them in, or a classroom, some</p> <p>18 of them are having classes on stages, and I wouldn't want</p> <p>19 that for any child but because I know my representative has</p> <p>20 a grandchild that's facing these kind of issues; I know she</p> <p>21 has a depth of understanding when I get to her door and I</p> <p>22 say, we are overcrowded and we could run out of money and</p> <p>23 not have enough schools for the kids here, she understands</p> <p>24 and, you know, if she lived in Everglade City, she might</p> <p>25 understand but she wouldn't have the same depth of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 92</p> <p>1 Number 63. Number 64.</p> <p>2 MS. JOHNSON: Greetings, Mr. Chairman, members of the</p> <p>3 committee, Broward delegation members. My name is Percy</p> <p>4 Johnson and I am the president of Dolphin Democratic Club</p> <p>5 of Broward County, Florida, this county's oldest nd largest</p> <p>6 gay and lesbian political organization in Broward County,</p> <p>7 Florida, founded in 1982. It's truly an honor to be here</p> <p>8 this morning, and I would like to thank you for having this</p> <p>9 hearing. I am a proud American and a proud resident of</p> <p>10 Fort Lauderdale, Florida, the Venice of America.</p> <p>11 I would like for the committee to take into</p> <p>12 consideration the ever-changing population of Broward</p> <p>13 County and its diversity, because diversity is important.</p> <p>14 Keep in mind that that's what makes Broward County a great</p> <p>15 county, its diversity. That is what makes this country a</p> <p>16 great country, its diversity.</p> <p>17 We don't want this -- we don't want our districts here</p> <p>18 in Broward County to be chopped up in such a way where all</p> <p>19 of the constituencies within Broward is not heard. We want</p> <p>20 to be heard, and we have been heard. Our issues and</p> <p>21 concerns within our constituencies here in Broward are</p> <p>22 heard every day by all of the great leaders within our</p> <p>23 Broward delegation. I strongly urge the committee and you,</p> <p>24 Mr. Chairman, to be fair. To be fair is to be American,</p> <p>25 and we are all American.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 91</p> <p>1 understanding that she has because her grandchild is there.</p> <p>2 And although I wouldn't put down Everglade City, that's not</p> <p>3 my intent, I am just saying that overcrowding is probably</p> <p>4 not their issue, they have other issues that need</p> <p>5 representation.</p> <p>6 So I'm coming to my state legislators, I am saying, it</p> <p>7 looks like we are going to run out of money, what am I</p> <p>8 expecting of them? I am expecting them to look closely at</p> <p>9 the capital budget of my school district. I want them to</p> <p>10 know the staff members. I want them to get together with</p> <p>11 other community leaders and say, what are we going to do,</p> <p>12 what are our options here for other funding.</p> <p>13 Now, if they are representing my county, and let's say</p> <p>14 Dade, are they going to have to meet with Dade County</p> <p>15 School Board members too and know Dade County's budget and</p> <p>16 Broward County's budget? I mean, what's possible, what's</p> <p>17 humanly possible for one representative to know and to be</p> <p>18 effective about.</p> <p>19 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Twenty seconds.</p> <p>20 MS. BOYD: Okay. So, that's my issue, just keep the</p> <p>21 boundary lines in counties so that they can continue to be</p> <p>22 committed to the people and knowledge of the issues. Thank</p> <p>23 you.</p> <p>24 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 56. Number 57.</p> <p>25 Number 58. Number 59. Number 60. Number 61. Number 62.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 93</p> <p>1 I live in District 93, represented by Representative</p> <p>2 Chris Smith, State Senator Mandy Dawson represents me in</p> <p>3 the State Senate. And the U.S. Congressman Alcee Hastings</p> <p>4 represents me in the U.S. Congress. They continue to unify</p> <p>5 all communities within Broward County. And let's not</p> <p>6 reconstruct the wheel, because if the wheel isn't broke</p> <p>7 let's not try to -- if the wheel isn't broke -- I am sorry</p> <p>8 about that.</p> <p>9 Some of the primary concerns of our community is</p> <p>10 education, health care, and equal rights. And as a</p> <p>11 representative of my community I urge the committee and the</p> <p>12 chairman to take some of those -- to take those into</p> <p>13 consideration when redrawing the districts.</p> <p>14 I can't stand here and say that members of our Broward</p> <p>15 delegation have not done a great job in the State House and</p> <p>16 State Senate, because they have. They listen to our issues</p> <p>17 and our concerns and they take action on them. Doors of</p> <p>18 opportunity have been opened for me, and doors of</p> <p>19 opportunity should continue to be open for others. So I</p> <p>20 urge the committee to be fair when drawing the lines which</p> <p>21 will effect not just myself but my entire community. Thank</p> <p>22 you and may God bless you.</p> <p>23 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 65.</p> <p>24 MS. MORALES: Honorable Chairman, good day and thank</p> <p>25 you. My name is Wilfredo Morales and I live at 6400</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 94</p> <p>1 Southwest 181st Lane in probably what's known to be the 2 greatest town in the State of Florida, Southwest Ranches. 3 I only say that because this is a town that doesn't go on 4 and talk about ethnic backgrounds, but they exist in our 5 town, Hispanics, blacks, Caribbeans, people from Central 6 America, people like myself from Puerto Rico, Anglos from 7 all over that I can think of, and we work together. 8 And the reason that we can work together is we have 9 representatives like our Senate Debbie Wasserman, who I 10 have watched her from Representative now to a Senator. And 11 Nan Rich, as a school advocate and now a representative, go 12 on and work with us and listen to us. And I will tell you, 13 something that is hard to work with is when people that 14 live in a town and people like me that originated in New 15 York City and the South Bronx and come to live in a town. 16 So, I have learned the whole process of working with the 17 urban areas, with the blighted areas, with the well-to-do 18 areas, and with all kind of people. And I only ask you to, 19 that I am part of a very, big, well-kept secret. I want to 20 ask, with all due respect of everyone up on the dais, how 21 many Hispanics are up there? And I am not asking because I 22 think that I need a Hispanic to represent me in legislative 23 issues, but I'm asking to let you know that hundreds of 24 thousands of Hispanics throughout this entire country have 25 done many things to help people move forward, yet we are DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 96</p> <p>1 is the only country that decided to call themselves 2 Americans and not United Statesians. In Canada they are 3 Canadians, in Columbia they are Columbians, in Puerto Rico 4 they are Puerto Ricans, in Haiti they are Haitians. In the 5 United States, we are Americans. It is our flag as well as 6 everyone's flag. I ask you to keep my Senator in place, I 7 ask you to keep all of those Representatives that have 8 worked with us, like Senator Geller and everyone, keep them 9 there because they understand us and we need them for our 10 future. Thank you very much. 11 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Number 66. Number 67. 12 MR. STARR: Good morning, legislators and welcome. I 13 am no good at speaking, we'll get that out right away. My 14 name is Charles Starr, I reside at 1100 Northeast 3rd 15 Avenue, Pompano Beach, Senate District 31 and House 16 District 90. I am an active member in the old Pompano 17 Civic Association and one of Broward County's educational 18 coordinators for the South Florida's Carpenter's Union. 19 Having said that, this is a community of unique 20 interests where I live. The environment is a major 21 concern. We have a huge dump up that way if you are 22 familiar with the north end of the county, which has a 23 direct bearing on our environment. Also they are looking 24 at putting in energy-generating plants. It is going to be 25 needed, there's no doubt about it, it's something we need DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 95</p> <p>1 not recognized for what we have done. 2 When you start redistricting in Broward County, the 3 Puerto Rican community, which is considered Americans, not 4 Hispanics by many of you, have been here, have worked hard 5 with many of our other neighbors. And we are now at a 6 stage where we are beginning to be respected and say, hey, 7 they really want to work, they really want to be a part of 8 it. When you start doing your redistricting, you are going 9 to change things, let's not fool each other, but don't 10 change things to the point that you stop the progress 11 that's taking place. Don't make us think that because we 12 are all Hispanics you can extend our district all the way 13 down to the bottom of Dade County and that we have the same 14 issues. I have many, many friends that are Cubans, 15 Nicaraguans, Panamanians, my wife is Ecuadorian. And trust 16 me, our issues are different, our concerns are different. 17 And I ask you to really, really keep that in mind because 18 one of the most important things to me is how do I feel, 19 it's what I'm going to do because I have learned to 20 assimilate in all kinds of communities. But it's what my 21 children are going to grow up to understand, that the 22 American flag is the flag that in the future, by choice or 23 by force, will represent the Hispanic community and that we 24 have been Americans. 25 Because it's funny that the United States of America DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 97</p> <p>1 to look at very deeply, don't jump in to anything halfway, 2 research it completely. We don't want to end up like 3 California but we need all of the information that we can 4 get. Okay, so that is a delicate area. 5 Transportation is a large, another large concern for 6 us, both for seniors and newcomers to our country. In 7 regards to what this gentleman just said, I am very -- I'm 8 being educated myself in regards to the newcomers to our 9 country. Mexicans are not the same as Hondurans, Latinos, 10 it is a generalization, they are completely different, each 11 one of them is different. Educating these young men and 12 women, you find out that saying one thing in what you think 13 is Spanish doesn't mean the same thing in another Spanish 14 dialect; it is trying to translate our material that we 15 have been teaching since 1881 is a major issue that our 16 international union is trying to do to address all of these 17 different types of Hispanics. 18 Getting back to transportation, they are coming into 19 this country, they are new, they have nothing, they are 20 scared, we need mass transportation for them to get around 21 and become part of this country. It all comes back to 22 education. Saying that, my wife happens to be a school 23 teacher in this county. 24 Education is part of our standard dinner conversation. 25 Over crowding is an issue we all know about. My feeling DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 98</p> <p>1 is, our legislators are in place, they are familiar with 2 issues, I know for a fact that they are all working on it. 3 I think we ought to just keep it in place and try to get 4 some things done, quit wasting time redistricting, worrying 5 about who has got a job next year, let's just go forward. 6 Thank you very much. 7 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 68. Number 69. 8 Number 70. 9 MR. KOUT: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, members of the 10 committee, members of the legislative delegation. My name 11 is David Kout, I live in Hollywood and I run my business 12 here in Pembroke Pines. And I want to talk to you about 13 the people who represent both of those districts. Senator 14 Debbie Wasserman-Schultz was a member of the House of 15 Representatives for eight years before she went into the 16 Senate. She got elected by going out and knocking on 17 people's doors, she knows her constituents intimately, 18 she's familiar with their concerns, and she's very 19 effective in representing them in Tallahassee, particularly 20 on children's issues and educational issues, as the 21 gentleman just said, those are the top of most people's 22 lists these days in terms of their priorities. 23 She replaced a Senator who was also a very experienced 24 and effective member of the Legislature who was forced out 25 by term limits. And we need to keep people representing us DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 100</p> <p>1 Community College Hispanic Advisory Board, the Frank 2 Vargas' Hispanic Round Table. And I am the vice-president 3 of the Hispanic Republican alliance. Hispanics now make up 4 17 percent of the county's 1.6 million people. And yet, 5 without more, that figure could be misleading. According 6 to the last census, Hispanics make up a more formidable 7 group in certain parts of Broward County. The point has 8 been made that communities of interest should be preserved 9 and that's true. How about this for a community of 10 interest? Coconut Creek is 11.7 percent Hispanic; Cooper 11 City is 15.6 percent Hispanic; Coral Springs, 15.5 percent 12 Hispanic; Dania Beach, 12; Davie, 18.8 percent Hispanic; 13 Hallandale, 18.8 percent; Hollywood, 22.5 percent Hispanic; 14 Miramar, 29.4; North Lauderdale, 21.1; Oakland Park, 17.9; 15 Pembroke Park, 28.2 percent Hispanic; likewise, Pembroke 16 Pines, 28.2 percent Hispanic; Sunrise, 17.1; Tamarac, 14.9; 17 Weston, 30.2 percent Hispanic. Hispanics are most heavily 18 concentrated in the southwest part of the county, 19 obviously, with municipalities like Miramar, Pembroke 20 Pines, Pembroke Park, Weston, where Hispanics account for 21 between one-quarter to one-third of the population. The 22 Broward Hispanic community, while diverse, is unified by a 23 cultural heritage. In many ways, it's, therefore, a 24 community of interest. 25 To-date, Broward County's large and concentrated DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 99</p> <p>1 who know their way around Tallahassee and are effective at 2 getting things done, and we want to keep her in the 3 Legislature. 4 My representative is Eleanor Sobel, who represents 5 District 100, she served on the city commission in 6 Hollywood before she went to Tallahassee. She has lived in 7 the area for about 30 years, again she's also very familiar 8 with her constituents and our concerns. She owns a 9 business in Hollywood. Hollywood is at a critical stage in 10 terms of its development of its residential and business 11 communities. And it's critical that we keep people like 12 Eleanor Sobel in office who know our concerns and can do a 13 good job of representing us effectively in Tallahassee. 14 Thank you very much. 15 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 71. 16 MS. GOMEZ-MALLADA: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, 17 members of the committee. Thank you for coming to Broward 18 County, Florida, and allowing me to present my views and 19 views shared by many of my friends and neighbors regarding 20 redistricting. I would like also to recognize the fine 21 labor of my State Senator Debbie Sanderson and Connie Mack, 22 my State Representative. My name is Ana Gomez-Mallada, I 23 am an attorney located in Lighthouse Point at the Northeast 24 end of Broward County. I am active in a number of civic 25 endeavors including Planned Parenthood, the Broward DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 101</p> <p>1 Hispanic concentration has not had the opportunity to elect 2 a candidate of its choice at the congressional, state, or 3 local level, largely because of the way lines were drawn in 4 the past. I would respectfully remind this committee of 5 the legal challenges to the 1990 redistricting from, among 6 others, then State Senator Dr. Carrie Meek, an 7 African-American Democrat, and then State Senator Lincoln 8 Diaz-Balart, a Cuban-American Republican. 9 But these plaintiffs alleged, among other things, that 10 the lines would not allow for appropriate minority 11 representation. When crafting new legislative lines I 12 believe that it is incumbent upon the State of Florida to 13 empower Broward's large and growing Hispanic community by 14 drawing lines that give it the opportunity to elect 15 candidates of its choice. 16 I trust that this Legislature will do the right thing 17 for our community. Thank you. 18 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 72. 19 MR. BUCKLEY: Senator Webster, members of the 20 committee, my name is David Buckley. I would like to speak 21 because I've been interested in the process of electing -- 22 the process of the election and I served for five or six 23 years as an advisor, technology advisor to the Broward 24 County School System and then to the Supervisor of 25 Elections. So I see this problem of dividing up and DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 102</p> <p>1 gerrymandering the county of Broward where I was born as an 2 academic exercise that will be changed by technology in the 3 21st Century. It occurs to me that the opportunity to 4 suggest to the Legislature that they use the considerable 5 known dollars that have been invested in the public school 6 system to establish a voting mechanism whereby the 7 districting and division of Broward County, for example, 8 although you are talking about the Legislature here, could 9 be technologically made scientifically simple, and doing it 10 in some mathematical way that took away the politics and 11 dividing us up into different categories of people so that 12 the Hispanics, and the blacks, the American Indians and so 13 forth didn't have an opportunity to divide the geography of 14 the county up but a computer did, and maybe by Zip Codes or 15 something else, so that making this exercise somewhat 16 unnecessary in the future where we are so homogenized that 17 we just live in districts that are divided up 18 mathematically and scientifically would be one idea that I 19 had.</p> <p>20 The other idea is even more significant to me, and 21 that is to use the public schools as a place to vote. We 22 have \$320 million investment in Broward County in the 23 technology rollout and we could have voting machines in 200 24 different places for about half of the expense that we are 25 spending now. So, that is irrelevant to the process of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 104</p> <p>1 district -- the decision-makers. This room does not 2 represent Broward County. There are a few people that are 3 not here, and those are the working people of this 4 district. I can say that because my city went from a 5 sleeping community to a working community and we can get 6 deeper into the changes that is evolving that Broward 7 County now represents.</p> <p>8 I don't know, and I'm just asking, that if there's a 9 map or a proposed map, if there is a decision by consensus 10 that you will increase the numbers of House and Senate 11 seats, that the statements that I will make would be 12 different because then I know where you are and where you 13 are going.</p> <p>14 I cannot make any comments and will not make any 15 comments as to the people that currently represent me 16 because you know that you voted for term limits, so I have 17 to talk about making sure that you give me communities of 18 interests, communities that have some commonalities so that 19 when we elect someone, that we are not just electing a 20 representative, but we are looking at representation. I 21 don't know if you understand what I'm trying to say. 22 Representation is what we are all about. And I can speak 23 to the people that currently serve me, they are truly my 24 representatives because I had a say in who they are, 25 because I voted for them because I feel strongly that they</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 103</p> <p>1 redistricting, but I would like to propose that the 2 investment in technology in public schools be harnessed for 3 the process of voting. I appreciate your time. Thank you 4 very much.</p> <p>5 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Number 73.</p> <p>6 MS. ROGERS: Good morning, we are on the verge of 7 morning afternoon. I wish I could ask you to close your 8 eyes so that you would not know who you are looking at and 9 you would just listen to the words of the people standing 10 in front of you. Mr. Chairman and members of this 11 committee, I feel your pain, because, like you, I have a 12 challenge of recognizing the changes demographics of 13 Broward County. Redistricting did not begin just yesterday 14 or last week, it is a philosophy of this great country that 15 gives us an opportunity to assess and analyze the needs of 16 the communities that we do serve.</p> <p>17 I participated in the last redistricting process and I 18 can see Representative Tobin, and I can see him and I 19 remember being on 19th Street at the Federated Women's 20 Club, okay, but then I was just a regular person. Which I 21 am still a regular person, although into some things.</p> <p>22 I was not here for your opening remarks, so I don't 23 know or understand fully the procedures that you have 24 adopted for this process, but I will learn, that is why I 25 sat and I listened. But I'm not hearing from you, the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 105</p> <p>1 know the needs of our community.</p> <p>2 I will close by saying that I am a city-elected 3 official. For those of you that don't know me, my city is 4 the City of Lauderdale Lakes, and I'm not here representing 5 Lauderdale Lakes. Lauderdale Lakes looks like Broward 6 County, Lauderdale Lakes --</p> <p>7 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Ten seconds.</p> <p>8 MS. ROGERS: Lauderdale Lakes is the county that we 9 all want to be and I'm proud of. And because I was asked 10 by someone representing the city that is in Chris Smith's 11 district, they asked me to say they like Representative 12 Christopher Smith. They couldn't stay because they had to 13 go to work. And I like those folks that are representing 14 me, and just give me one minute just to say, since I might 15 be the last person, your duties and responsibility, all we 16 are asking for you to be is to be fair to all of the 17 people, recognizing that there are many vestiges of 18 communities of interest. Color me first black, color me 19 secondly a woman, color me an immigrant, color me a member 20 of the human race. Thank you.</p> <p>21 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Number 74.</p> <p>22 SHERYL: Greetings. My name is Sheryl, I represent an 23 organization called One Love. Please do not be offended by 24 my shades, I seem to have misplaced my eyes. I couldn't 25 find my head if I wanted to, if it wasn't screwed on tight.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 106</p> <p>1 I am not a terrorist or anything, I am a lady, okay. Good 2 morning, Mr. Chairman, House of Representatives, House 3 Redistricting, and Procedural Council. I would also like 4 to thank you for taking the time to examine Florida 5 redistricting 2001. I ask that you please take these 6 people seriously regarding their voting rights. 7 First, let me introduce myself. I am a full-time 8 college student with part-time employment at Broward 9 Community College by way of student loans and government 10 grants. I thank you, as education is very dear to me. I 11 would like to wake up every morning and clean the crust out 12 of my big blue eyes, I would like to continue in my major 13 studies, history versus economics. I feel that I have a 14 right to be independent and self-sufficient, with good 15 reason, of course, respect. 16 I am here on behalf of my constituents who, with my 17 support, would like for you to consider our issues. In 18 population, welfare reformat, child and elderly abuse, this 19 is ridiculous, economic sanctions, domestic terrorism, 20 political parties who practice gerrymandering with regards 21 to redistricting, overcrowded community property, 22 immigration, one Krome Detention Center, Broward-Dade, and 23 other juvenile detention centers and community destruction, 24 police, police brutality with regards to racial profiling 25 in our community, our heritage, not to mention one's right DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 108</p> <p>1 someone who would like to do that? Senator 2 Wasserman-Schultz, you are recognized. 3 SENATOR WASSERMAN-SCHULTZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 4 I would be remiss if I didn't at least welcome my 5 colleagues to Senate District 32. The campus and the 6 surrounding community is in my State Senate District. It 7 is also in Representative Nan Rich's district, which is my 8 former House District, as you have been told this morning. 9 First of all, I want to congratulate our community in 10 turning so strongly to a morning public hearing in which we 11 have, as was mentioned, many people who are working. I can 12 tell you this is probably a preview, just a preview to this 13 evening's hearing in terms of turnout. 14 Mr. Chairman and members, I think you have heard a 15 good summary and smattering of the things that matter to 16 the people in Broward County, particularly South Broward 17 County this morning. They have told you that they want to 18 keep our smaller communities whole, communities like Dania 19 Beach and Weston and Southwest Ranches. Dividing up those 20 communities would be harmful to the people that need one 21 voice representing them in the Legislature. They don't 22 want our districts, as we heard so strongly in the 23 southwest part of the state, they don't want our 24 legislative districts drawn with districts in the southwest 25 part of the state. Although we did not have that voice DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 107</p> <p>1 to be gay, lesbian, straight, black, and white, Indian, 2 old, young, or indifferent with regards to world religion. 3 We ask that you consider me, my love, as we have no 4 options, only choices. Choose one. This is personal push, 5 I ask why. Can we all just get along in population? Why 6 must we continue to lay low when we want to troop to our 7 destination, be it by car, air, or taxi, or must we all 8 request a sentence modification? 9 Please keep us in one district, do not divide us. May 10 God bless and protect you, my children. Hopefully one day 11 our spirit, mind and body can live in love, strength and 12 respect for each other, for human regard as stated in our 13 constitutional rights, with life, liberty and justice for 14 all. 15 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Twenty seconds. 16 SHERYL: We want respect. We want to respect you when 17 you stop putting on the ritz, set the captives free, 18 there's many stars in this room, you are not the only one. 19 You are not above us, we are not your lab rats, we will 20 take post by any means necessary. We demand equal rights 21 and justice. Court adjourned, one love. 22 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: That is the last person to testify. 23 And as our custom has been to allow the members of the 24 delegation, or anyone else, but we will start with the 25 delegation, who would like to say a few words. Is there DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 109</p> <p>1 represented as strongly here, I can tell you that that's 2 something that we have heard again and again leading up to 3 this hearing. 4 They want to keep our districts entirely within 5 Broward, they don't want to be chopped up. They want us 6 particularly to consider the issues that are most important 7 to us, such as education, school over crowding, 8 transportation. This community wants to be able to elect 9 representatives that understand and experience those 10 issues, whose children and grandchildren experience those 11 issues. 12 We also have a very diverse community, one whose 13 strength is in our diversity, both culturally, ethnically 14 and all the way across the board. Fairness is something 15 that is important to them. And as you heard, the 16 undercount, which was significant in this community is 17 something that the Legislature should consider according to 18 the testimony we heard today, and most of all we want to 19 make sure that Broward County is treated fairly all the way 20 across the board. 21 I look forward to the hearing this evening and if you 22 need any assistance while you are here in Broward County, 23 please feel free to call my office, it is just down the 24 street. 25 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Representative Ryan. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 110</p> <p>1 Representative Sobel, did you want to talk?</p> <p>2 REPRESENTATIVE SOBEL: Yes.</p> <p>3 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: You are recognized first, then.</p> <p>4 REPRESENTATIVE SOBEL: Thank you, Chairman Webster and</p> <p>5 committee members, welcome to Broward County. I want to</p> <p>6 first of all thank all of the people who are here today,</p> <p>7 who spoke, who did not speak, who believe that our</p> <p>8 government is of the people, by the people and for the</p> <p>9 people. Your input is invaluable to this committee and</p> <p>10 will be taken seriously by us. In the future, let us come</p> <p>11 together again to view the maps and comment on them. This</p> <p>12 redistricting process is not about partisanship, as many of</p> <p>13 you have said, but about the people of Florida and their</p> <p>14 community of interest, neighborhoods, schools, hospitals,</p> <p>15 places of worship, senior interests, business interests,</p> <p>16 tourism and other interests as well.</p> <p>17 We as a state need to unite and work together in this</p> <p>18 time of grief and mourning and make redistricting a matter</p> <p>19 of fairness and equity as well as to focus on the future of</p> <p>20 Florida's economy, security, needed educational programs,</p> <p>21 and health and human services.</p> <p>22 As some of the citizens have adequately and</p> <p>23 effectively said today, the strength of our state and our</p> <p>24 country is people working together. Let us continue</p> <p>25 working together in this process so we can move forward.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 112</p> <p>1 If we redistrict based upon communities of interest,</p> <p>2 then we are guaranteed that we will have legislators that</p> <p>3 are committed to the process, committed to the people and</p> <p>4 responsive to the people. Otherwise, they will be voted</p> <p>5 out of office because those with a common purpose in a</p> <p>6 community of interest, if their cause is not advanced, if</p> <p>7 the cause of all Floridians is not advanced, then certainly</p> <p>8 they have the choice, and that's what makes this state and</p> <p>9 this nation so great; is that you are able to participate</p> <p>10 in government and by an appropriate redistricting that</p> <p>11 preserves communities of interest we will maximize the</p> <p>12 voice of all Floridians.</p> <p>13 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Senator Geller.</p> <p>14 SENATOR GELLER: Thank you, Mr. Chair, member of the</p> <p>15 Senate and House, as well as members of the audience, of</p> <p>16 course. There are two issues I wanted to make. First, and</p> <p>17 certainly the most importantly, I think we can see now,</p> <p>18 Senator Wasserman-Schultz and I jointly represent South</p> <p>19 Broward. And I represented much of the rest of South</p> <p>20 Broward in my House seat which I served in before I came to</p> <p>21 the Senate.</p> <p>22 And I think you can see here in Broward County we have</p> <p>23 a very involved, very articulate electorate. And again,</p> <p>24 first and most importantly, I just wanted to thank so many</p> <p>25 people, my constituents and the other Senators and</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 111</p> <p>1 Thank you very much.</p> <p>2 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Representative Ryan.</p> <p>3 REPRESENTATIVE RYAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This</p> <p>4 committee has now traveled much of the state, from North</p> <p>5 Florida to South Florida, Republican strongholds on the</p> <p>6 western coast, Democratic strongholds such as what we have</p> <p>7 here in Broward County. And we have heard a lot about</p> <p>8 different lifestyles, different vocations, different</p> <p>9 professions, different industries that support our</p> <p>10 populace. But what we have also have heard is a common</p> <p>11 thread that runs through much of this testimony and that is</p> <p>12 about, number one, protecting communities of interest.</p> <p>13 Number two, preserving the political boundaries that we</p> <p>14 have, especially in small cities and in small counties.</p> <p>15 And this Legislature, this committee, has a fresh slate to</p> <p>16 work from and we have been told there are no maps, that the</p> <p>17 maps will be drawn after we hear the input from all of the</p> <p>18 people. And that gives us an opportunity to be nonpartisan</p> <p>19 in this process.</p> <p>20 What we have seen, due to the tragedy in New York and</p> <p>21 Washington, D.C. is that the walls of partisanship have</p> <p>22 crumbled on the issue of security for Floridians and</p> <p>23 security for this nation. It is my hope that the walls of</p> <p>24 partisanship can also be crumbled on the issue of</p> <p>25 redistricting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 113</p> <p>1 Representatives' constituents for taking the time out from</p> <p>2 your busy schedule to be here, your testimony was critical.</p> <p>3 I believe it will have an impact. And, again, I want to</p> <p>4 extend my thanks, and again, thank you for showing the rest</p> <p>5 of the state just what an articulate and involved</p> <p>6 electorate we do have here in Broward.</p> <p>7 The second thing I wanted to discuss briefly, Mr.</p> <p>8 Chair, was the issue that I think you have heard a lot in</p> <p>9 terms of a community of interest, and Senator</p> <p>10 Wasserman-Schultz, again, touched on this. We had the lady</p> <p>11 from Davie who was talking about the bicoastal seat and,</p> <p>12 you know, the differences in Everglade City from here in</p> <p>13 Broward. I happen to represent Everglade and she was</p> <p>14 talking about Collier County. And I go from the Atlantic</p> <p>15 Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico. And when you were in LaBelle</p> <p>16 the other day, that was also in my Senate District up in</p> <p>17 Hendry County. And I think a lot of the people say they</p> <p>18 don't want seats like that. I love representing Hendry</p> <p>19 County, I really do, it is a wonderful place, but I think</p> <p>20 that you have heard here again that the people don't want</p> <p>21 bicounty, excuse me, bicoastal seats, the seats that go</p> <p>22 from the Atlantic to the Gulf.</p> <p>23 And I think that we have heard that people are saying</p> <p>24 that they really don't want to go west of the Broward</p> <p>25 County line in taking in either the heartland counties or</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 114</p> <p>1 the coastal counties on Southwest Florida. We heard that 2 again in LaBelle, we heard that in Naples. And I think 3 that if there is one consensus that's been coming out of 4 these meetings, it is that the bicoastal counties, which 5 may have been a good idea or a good experiment ten years 6 ago, don't seem to be working. And I think that we owe it 7 to the people in this area as well as the southwest to give 8 them that issue.</p> <p>9 Thank you, Mr. Chair, and members of the committee, 10 and again, welcome to Broward.</p> <p>11 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Representative Kottkamp.</p> <p>12 REPRESENTATIVE KOTTKAMP: I wanted to take a moment to 13 personally thank everybody who has come out. I need two 14 mikes. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone 15 who has come out to speak today, because this is the one 16 moment where you really can make a difference because 17 legislators who have come from all over the state will have 18 an opportunity to hear and see everything that you have 19 stood for your entire life by the words that you have used 20 to express your views today. You have mentioned education, 21 you have mentioned health care, you have mentioned 22 transportation, you have mentioned the annexation, you have 23 mentioned freedom. All of the issues that you feel are so 24 important to you and that you feel are best represented by 25 the members who have been districted into your district ten</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 116</p> <p>1 you feel and what you believe in and the issues that are 2 important to you as we go through this redistricting 3 process. So, thank you for coming out and if anybody needs 4 anything for tonight, the meeting tonight is going to be in 5 my district, so if you have any questions or comments, feel 6 free to contact me or my legislative office while you are 7 in town. Thank you.</p> <p>8 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Representative Weissman.</p> <p>9 REPRESENTATIVE WEISMANN: Thank you, Mr. Chair, 10 members. Welcome to Broward County. We are about as far 11 away from my district as we can get and still be in Broward 12 County here. And I want to thank the public that came out 13 and I would especially like to thank those who came down 14 and spent an hour on a bus from North Broward and were here 15 earlier, and they are still on the bus I'm sure heading 16 home. But we do appreciate them making the trip down here 17 to South Broward in order to be able to have their wishes 18 heard. Thank you all for being here.</p> <p>19 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Representative Weston.</p> <p>20 REPRESENTATIVE WESTIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I 21 wanted to extend my thanks to the residents coming out to 22 speak on this important issue, and I really want to reserve 23 my comments until after I hear the citizens from the 24 hearing this evening that we have. So I just want to thank 25 you, Mr. Chairman, as well as the other members for coming</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 115</p> <p>1 years ago and were elected recently.</p> <p>2 I really appreciate everything that you have done. I 3 want to thank all of my colleagues for being here and 4 coming from other places to be here in Broward. If you 5 need directions or a place to eat for lunch, just let me 6 know. And my neckties are for sale. And I wanted to point 7 out that all of the people who had mentioned that they were 8 vertically challenged came from my district.</p> <p>9 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Representative Seiler.</p> <p>10 REPRESENTATIVE SEILER: Thank you. It's been a long 11 morning and it's now early afternoon so I am going to keep 12 it short because really what I wanted to say has been 13 eloquently stated by those in the front row and by 14 Representative Gottlieb next to me. But first I want to 15 thank the Chairmen, Chairman Ball and Chairman Webster for 16 coming down here and having this second hearing down here 17 in South Broward. I think we appreciate you coming down 18 here. I also want to thank my fellow members of the House 19 and Senators that are here for also coming down to South 20 Florida and listening to us.</p> <p>21 More importantly and most importantly, I want to thank 22 those in the audience for coming to speak. I think as 23 Senator Geller said, you articulately stated exactly what 24 we have been hearing time and time again down here and we 25 thank you for coming out today and letting us all know how</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 117</p> <p>1 down and listening to our residents in this South part of 2 the county.</p> <p>3 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Anyone else? 4 (No audible response.)</p> <p>5 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: The hearing is adjourned. 6 (Hearing concluded.)</p> <p>7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF FLORIDA:

COUNTY OF LEON:

I, MONA L. WHIDDON, Court Reporter, certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true and complete record of my stenographic notes.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2001.

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